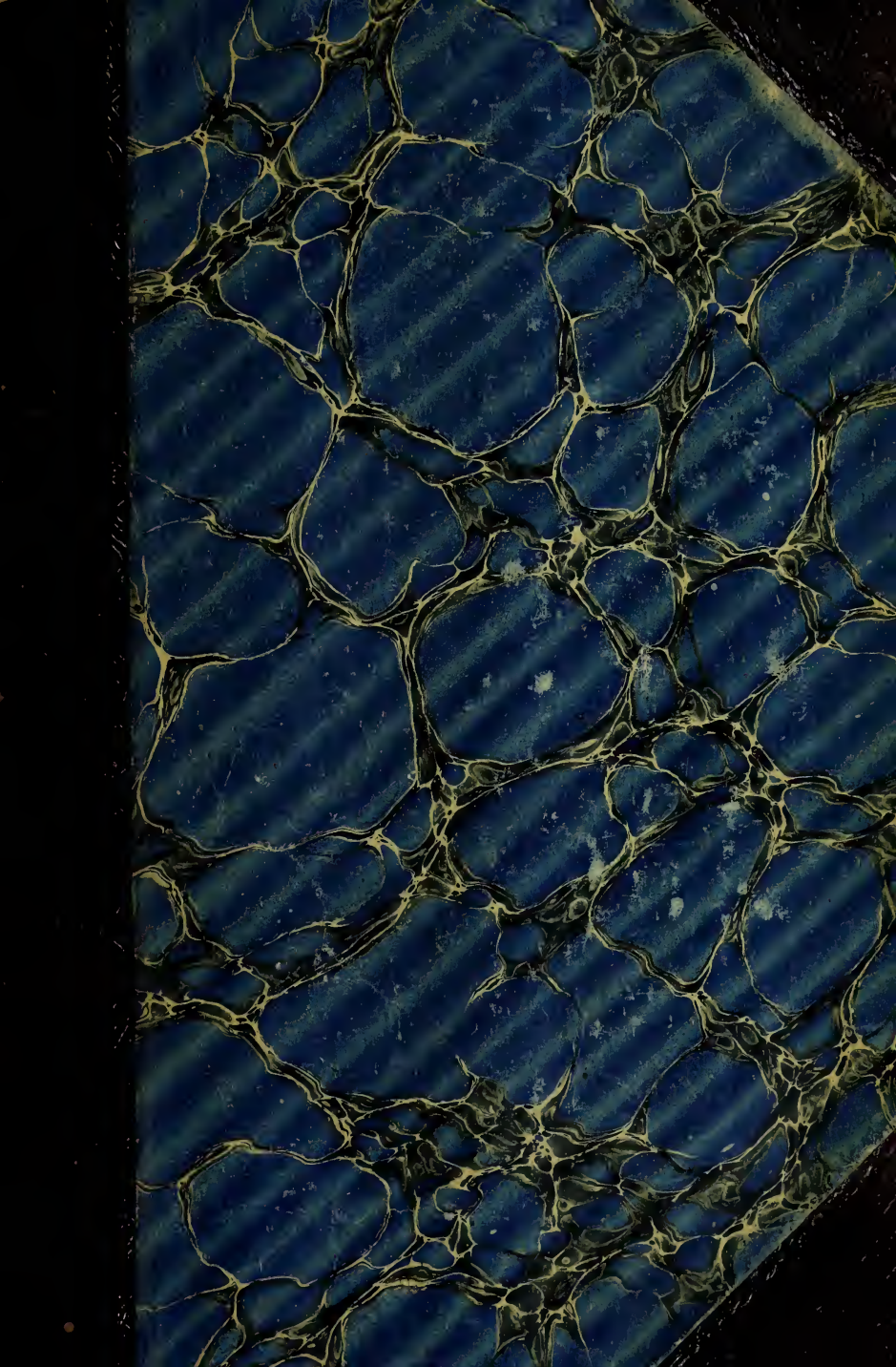
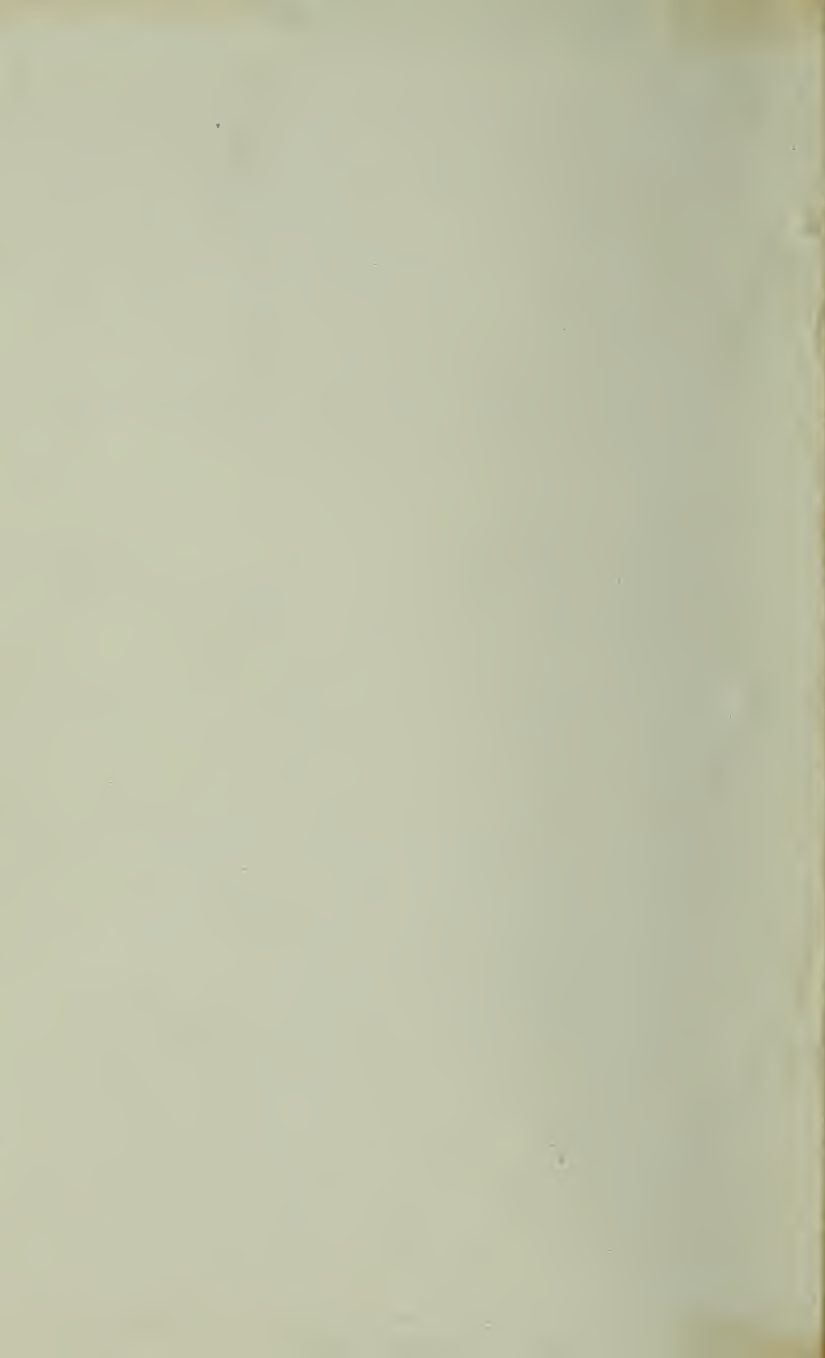
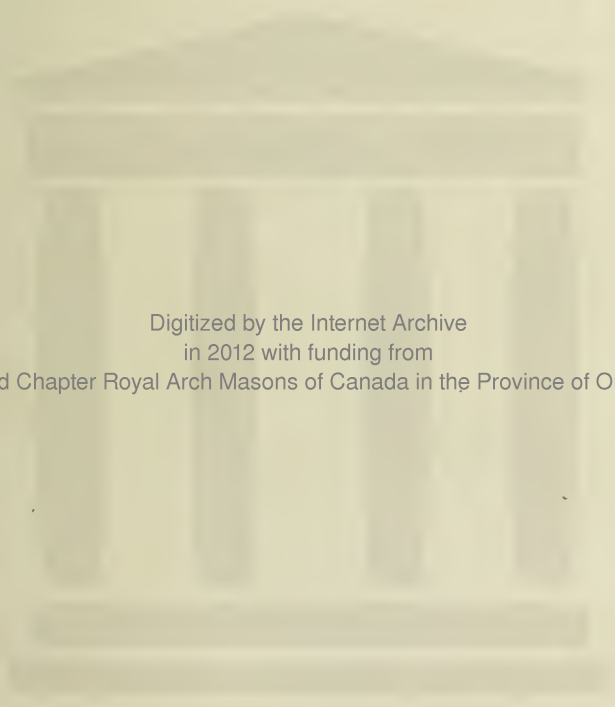






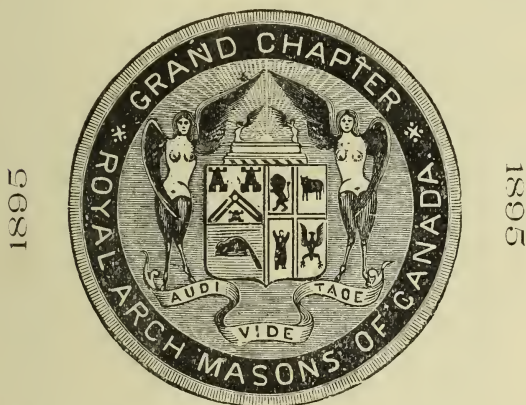


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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER

OF
Royal Arch Masons
OF CANADA,

AT THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,
HELD IN



THE MASONIC HALL, CITY OF TORONTO,

Tuesday, July 16th, A. D. 1895, A. I. 2425, A. L. 5895.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,
TORONTO, ONT., *Grand Z.*

ADDRESS:

THOS. SARGANT,
TORONTO, ONT., *Grand Scribe E.*

HAMILTON, ONT.:
McPHERSON & DROPE, PRINTERS AND BOOKBINDERS,

1895.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, City of Toronto, on Tuesday, the 16th day of July, A. D. 1895, A. I. 2425.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson.....	Grand Z.	} Grand Council on The Throne.
R. E. Comp. M. Walsh	Grand H.	
R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid	Grand J.	
M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant.....	Grand Scribe E.	
R. E. Comp. J. Hickson	Grand Scribe N.	
R. E. Comp. F. F. Manley	Grand Principal Sojourner.	
R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray	Grand Treasurer.	
R. E. Comp. J. A. Morton	Grand Registrar.	
V. E. Comp. Geo. Monkman.....	as Grand 1st Asst. Sojourner.	
E. Comp. W. A. Karn.....	as Grand 2nd Asst. Sojourner.	
E. Comp. T. M. Davis.....	Grand Sword Bearer.	
E. Comp. N. T. Lyon.....	as Grand Master of Veils.	
E. Comp. J. F. Graham	as Grand Standard Bearer.	
E. Comp. S. Wesley	as Grand Direct. of Ceremonies	
V. E. Comp. A. R. Hargraft.....	Grand Organist.	
E. Comp. S. Brown.....	Grand Pursuivant.	
V. E. Comp. F. W. Burke	Grand Steward.	
V. E. Comp. Ira Bates.....	Grand Steward.	
E. Comp. W. J. Hallett.....	as Grand Steward.	
V. E. Comp. Cornwall.....	as Grand Steward.	
Comp. J. H. Pritchard	Grand Janitor.	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. W. W. Rutherford, Aylmer,	London District No. 2	
R. E. Comp. S. F. Passmore, Brantford,	Wilson	" " 3
R. E. Comp. R. Mahony, Guelph,	Wellington	" " 4
R. E. Comp. Wm. Birrell, Hamilton,	Hamilton	" " 5
R. E. Comp. F. W. Gearing, Stratford,	Huron	" " 6
R. E. Comp. C. H. Connor, St. Catharines,	Niagara	" " 7
R. E. Comp. Robert Oliver, Toronto,	Toronto	" " 8
R. E. Comp. W. T. Toner, Collingwood,	Georgian	" " 9
R. E. Comp. W. J. Quinlan, Port Hope,	Ontario,	" " 10
R. E. Comp. Jas. Adams, Kingston,	Central	" " 12

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

R. E. Comp. C. A. Humber, Goderich,	Arizona.
R. E. Comp. Samuel Wesley, Barrie,	California.
R. E. Comp. T. C. Macnabb, Chatham,	Delaware.
M. E. Comp. Hy. Robertson, Collingwood.	District of Columbia.

M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford,	London,	Georgia.
R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett,	Toronto,	Iowa.
R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn,	Kincardine	Indian Territory.
R. E. Comp. J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton,	Kansas.
M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargant,	Toronto,	Kentucky.
R. E. Comp. B. Allen,	Toronto,	Maine.
M. E. Comp. John E. Harding,	Stratford,	Massachusetts.
V. E. Comp. J. A. Morton,	Kincardine,	Mississippi.
R. E. Comp. D. F. McWatt,	Barrie,	Missouri.
R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto,	Nebraska.
R. E. Comp. John S. Dewar,	London.	New Hampshire.
M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason,	Hamilton,	Nevada.
M. E. Comp. Hy Robertson,	Collingwood,	New York.
R. E. Comp. John Moodie,	Hamilton,	Nova Scotia.
M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry,	London,	Quebec.
R. E. Comp. M. Walsh,	Ingersoll,	Rhode Island.
R. E. Comp. A. E. Cooper,	London,	South Dakota.
R. E. Comp. William Gibson,	Beamsville,	Tennessee.
R. E. Comp. E. T. Malone,	Toronto,	Texas.
R. E. Comp. Alex. Patterson,	Toronto,	Virginia.
R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray,	Hamilton	Washington.
R. E. Comp. Gavin Stewart,	Woodstock,	Wisconsin.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in Ample Form at 10.45 a. m.

R. E. Comp. J. D. Christie, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives reported that there are 96 warranted Chapters and 1 U. D. on the roll of Grand Chapter, of which number 76 were represented by the following Companions:

No. 1. *Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston.*

R. E. Comps. A. Shaw, R. T. Walkem, Jas. Adams, P. Z's.

No. 2. *The Hiram, Hamilton.*

E. Comp. C. V. Emory, Z, T. M. Davis, P. Z.

No. 3. *St. John's, London.*

R. E. Comps. A. E. Cooper, J. S. Dewar, P. Z's., H. Stratfold, Z.

No. 4. *St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.*

R. E. Comp. R. J. Hovenden, J. K. Kerr, E. Comp. Wm. Simpson, T. Hills, John Erskine, C. A. Matthews, S. Love, P. Z's., George Moir, Z., James Glanville, H.

No. 5. *St. George's, London.*

M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, E. Comp. H. L. Burke, A. S. McWhnney, M. E. Comp. D. Spry, P. Z's., A. A. Campbell, Z.

- No. 6. St. John's Hamilton.*
R. E. Comps. W. G. Reid, G. J., J. Malloy, Thos. McCallum, Wm. Birrell, Hugh Murray, Wm. Gibson, J. M. Gibson, P. Z's.
- No. 7. Moira, Belleville.*
V. E. Wm. Webster, P. Z, E. Comp. H. Pringle; Proxy.
- No. 8. King Solomon, Toronto.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, J. R. Robertson, R. E. Comp. A. Patterson, E. T. Malone, J. B. Nixon, R. Oliver; E. Comp. N. T. Lyon. G. C. Patterson, S. Brown, P. Z's.; M. Gibbs, Past H., W. H. Woodstock, Z., C. H. Dunning, H.
- No. 15. Wawanosh, Saruia.*
E. Comp. T. J. Winter, Z.
- No. 16. Carleton, Ottawa.*
E. Comp. S. A. Luke, Z, J. H. Salmon, P. Z.
- No. 18. Oxford, Woodstock.*
E. Comp. W. A. Karn, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 19. Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.*
R. E. Comps. J. D. Christie, C. H. Connor, P. Z., Ex. Comp. John S. Campbell, Z.
- No. 20. Mount Horeb, Brantford.*
R. E. Comp. S. T. Passmore, P. Z.
- No. 22. Greenville, Prescott.*
E. Comp. J. T. Graham, Z.
- No. 23. Ezra, Simcoe.*
R. E. Comp. J. D. Christie, P. Z.
- No. 24. Tecumseh, Stratford.*
M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, R. E. Comp. F. W. Gearing. E. Comp. J. R. Moore, P. Z's., Comp. J. McKellar, H.
- No. 26. St. Marks, Trenton.*
V. E. Comp. Rev. W. J. Wilkins, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 27. Manitou, Collingwood.*
M. E. Comp. H. Robertson; R. E. Comp. W. T. Toner. P. Z.; E. Comp. G. M. Aylsworth, Z.
- No. 28. Pentalpha, Oshawa.*
R. E. Comp, R. Macaw; E. Comp. E. Rae, P. Z's.; E. Comp. A. L. Harvey, Z.
- No. 29. McCallum, Dunnville.*
R. E. Comp. Louis Congdon, John Parry, P. Z's.; Comp. R. G. W. Connolly, H.
- No. 30. Huron, Goderich.*
R. E. Comps. R. Radcliffe, Joseph Beck, P. Z's.

- No. 31. Prince Edward, Picton.*
M. E. Comp. D. Ross, P. Z. ; Comps. C. C. Spencer ; H. Willbanks, P. Z.
- No. 32. Waterloo, Galt.*
R. E. Comp. G. V. T. Greenhill, P. Z. ; Comp. G. S. Wardlaw, H.
- No. 34. Signet, Barrie.*
R. E. Comp. D. F. Macwatt ; V. E. Comp. Geo. Monkman ; S. Wesley, P. Z's. ; W. J. Hallett, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 35. Keystone, Whitby.*
E. Comp. A. G. Henderson, Z.
- No. 36. Corinthian, Peterboro.*
Comp. John Shaw, H.
- No. 37. Victoria, Port Hope.*
V. E. Comp. J. W. Quinlan, P. Z.
- No. 38. Seymour, Shelburne.*
E. Comp. T. F. Brown, Z.
- No. 40. Guelph, Guelph.*
R. E. Comp. R. Mahony, Proxy ; V. E. Comp. H. Walker ; P. Howle, P. Z.
- No. 41. Harris, Ingersoll.*
R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 44. Mount Sinai, Napanee.*
M. E. Comp. Donald Ross ; R. E. Comp. James Walters, P. Z.'s ; E. Comp. J. D. Pryhn, Z.
- No. 45. Excelsior, Colborne.*
E. Comp. V. G. Cornwall, P. Z. ; J. R. Fitzgerald, H.
- No. 46. St. James, St. Marys.*
M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 47. Wellington, Chatham.*
R. E. Comp. T. C. Macnabb.
- No. 48. St. John's, Cobourg.*
R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig, Proxy ; E. Comp. A. R. Hargraff ; W. Rankin, P. Z's.
- No. 53. Bruce, Petrolia.*
E. Comp. John Sinclair, Z.
- No. 54. Palestine, St. Thomas.*
Comp. H. A. McIntyre, H.
- No. 55. Niagara, Niagara.*
R. E. Comps. J. M. Clement, J. G. Rosseau, P. Z's.
- No. 56. Georgian, Owen Sound.*
R. E. Comp. John Creasor ; Comp. J. McLaughlan, P. Z. and Proxy.

- No. 58. *Pembroke, Mattawa.*
E. Comp. S. Douglas, P. Z. ; Comp. John DeSousa, Z.
- No. 59. *Sussex, Brockville.*
E. Comps. C. H. Fitzsimmons, John Menish, P. Z's.
- No. 60. *Doric, Newmarket.*
E. Comp. P. T. Lee, P. Z.
- No. 61. *Granite, Almonte.*
Comp. W. C. Pollock, J.
- No. 62. *York, Eglington.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargant ; R. E. Comp. Wm. Roaf ; Comp. D. Robertson, George Brooke, R. W. Hull, George Reeve, P. Z's.
- No. 63. *Harclock, Kincardine.*
R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, P. Z. . E. Miller, Z.
- No. 64. *Willson, Welland.*
E. Comp. W. M. German, P. Z. and Proxy,
- No. 65. *St. Paul's, Toronto.*
R. E. Comps. F. F. Manley, B. Allen, T. F. Blackwood, A. White, B. Saunders, G. F. Shipley, P. Z's ; E. Comp. R. C. Donald. Z. . J. McKnight, J.
- No. 66. *Malloch, Seaforth.*
Comp. Rev. J. W. Hodgins, P. H.
- No. 67. *Enterprise, Harriston.*
R. E. Comp. R. Mahoney, Proxy.
- No. 69. *Grimshy, Grimshy.*
R. E. Comp. Wm. Gibson, Z.
- No. 70. *Grand River, Bracebridge.*
E. Comp. J. Huber, Z.
- No. 71. *Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.*
R. E. Comp. Geo. Middleditch, Proxy.
- No. 72. *Keystone, Sterling.*
E. Comp. John Shaw, Z.
- No. 73. *Erie, Ridgelytown.*
R. E. Comp. George Middleditch, P. Z. ; E. Comp. J. C. Anderson, Z.
- No. 75. *St. Clair, Milton.*
E. Comp. J. A. Fraser, P. Z.
- No. 77. *Occident, Toronto.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargant ; R. E. Comps. J. Hickson, John Hetherington, A. G. Horwood, Wm. Liddle, L. B. Montgomery, P. Z's ; R. Dinnis, P. H.
- No. 78. *Minnewawa, Parkhill.*
Comp. A. S. Thornton, J.

- No. 79. *Orient, Toronto.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent; D. D. Grierson, Ira Bates; P. Z. and Proxy; F. J. Unitt, Z.; J. McMaster, J.
- No. 80. *Ark, Windsor.*
E. Comp. Thos. Peters, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 81. *Aylmer, Aylmer.*
R. E. Comp. W. W. Rutherford, P. Z.
- No. 83. *Ionic, Orangeville.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, R. Mann, P. Z's; Comp. R. Irvine, H.
- No. 85. *Exeter, Exeter.*
E. Comp. R. H. Collins, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 88. *Macnabb, Dresden.*
R. E. Comp. R. M. Stuart, P. Z.
- No. 90. *Golden, Rat Portage.*
R. E. Comp. J. K. Brydon, P. Z.
- No. 91. *Antiquity, Toronto.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, R. E. Comp. G. G. Rowe, G. J. Bennett, W. Walker, Proxy, V. E. Comp. C. F. Mansell, P. Z's.
- No. 95. *Tuscan, Sudbury.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, R. E. Comp. J. G. Bennett, Proxy.
- No. 96. *Australian Killwinning, Melbourne.*
M. E. Comp. D. Spry, Proxy.
- No. 97. *City of Melbourne, Melbourne.*
M. E. Comp. H. Robertson, Proxy.
- No. 98. *Vancouver, Vancouver.*
M. E. Comp. D. Spry, Proxy.
- No. 100. *St. Lawrence, Brockville.*
E. Comp. C. H. Fitzsimmons, P. Z., Proxy.
- No. 102. *Algonquin, Sault Ste Marie.*
E. Comp. J. M. Wemyss, Z.
- No. 103. *St. John's, North Bay.*
R. E. Comp. D. F. Macwatt, Proxy, Comp. W. H. Burgess, P. Z.
- No. 104. *White Oak, Oakville.*
E. Comp. Wm. Spears, Z.
- No. 106. *Alberta, Calgary.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, Proxy.
- No. 108. *Duke of Albany, Melbourne.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, Proxy.
- No. 109. *United Wimmera, Murtola, Victoria.*
R. E. Comp. J. M. Gibson, Proxy.

- No. 112. *St. John's, Morrisburg.*
Comp. G. H. S. Kennedy, H., D. A. McDonald, J.
- No. 113. *Covenant, Farran's Point.*
M. E. Comp. T. Sargant, Proxy.
- No. 115. *Brant, Paris.*
E. Comp. P. N. Cox, Z.

Twenty-one Chapters are not represented. No. of names registered, 171. No. of votes entitled to be cast, 317.

On motion of R. E. Comp. J. D. Christie, seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Roaf, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the Thirty-seventh Annual Convocation, held in the City of Hamilton, on the 20th day of July, A. D., 1894, A. I., 2424, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved, That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 20th day of July, 1894, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Canada, Greeting :

COMPANIONS OF GRAND CHAPTER,—A difficulty in finding features in our work, which, when dealt with, would vary the monotony of the periodical message of the Grand First Principal, troubles me as we meet together in this, the thirty-eighth Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The preacher has an ample range as he looks over the leaves of the Word, which is the keystone of our

faith. Wide territories of thought are open to a Grand Master. But a Grand First Principal is confined to fields, most of which fortunately bear rich harvests, while some yield but scanty crops. In others the gleaner finds only promises of good to come, while, with regret be it said, a few acres produce nothing but a harvest of barren regrets. I feel, therefore, that the limit of my feeble power may fall far below the line of your reasonable expectations, and thus I am impressed with a diffidence, which may or may not be a characteristic of the profession of moulding public opinion and manufacturing criticism.

The intelligence of this assemblage, so accustomed to hear enlightening words from its presiding officers, has always been more or less critical, so that one must weigh well his thoughts in forming the written sentences that are to go on record.

Literary fireworks, even if I had the ability to fill the air with them, are in place at a flag-raising, or on some national anniversary. On these occasions our lips breathe words patriotic and our hands applaud to the echo the hero of the platform. He who speaks wins his audience with chosen phrases, some original, and others perhaps, revamped thoughts of owners, who, if they had the power, would from another land eagerly discuss the duration of punishment deserved by hucksters who carry to market literary fruit plucked in other people's thought gardens.

My humble endeavor, therefore, will be to cast up in a few paragraphs, which it is to be hoped will not weary, my year's work, and summarize opinions upon such of its features as are of vital interest to this Grand Chapter.

Standing within sight of the thirtieth milestone in my journey as a Mason, with opportunities for experience on nearly every line of Masonic labor, my view is strengthened that the interchange of thought under the sheltering tree of friendship does more good in fraternal association than oft-repeated obligations, or grips, which cover degrees which cannot be numbered without taxing the mechanism of a fully equipped calculating machine.

As we sit here to-day many Companions have but a bowing friendship with those surrounding them. Yet in this room there are a score of Companions, who for more than a quarter of a century have cherished a friendship, which had its birth in the first home of a Mason—within the tyled door of a Craft Lodge.

One of those who were of this circle was M. E. Companion F. J. Menet, Past Grand Z. of this Grand Chapter. He was a Companion active in the work, and warm in his friendship, and his kindly face will be missed in our councils.

AN INSPECTION OF THE CHAPTERS.

In the light of these thoughts, and faithful to the promise made when you honored me with this position, I have endeavored to keep myself in touch with the work, and with the men who guide the work, by visiting 77 of the 82 Chapters on the roll of Grand Chapter in this Province and east of Sault Ste. Marie. The fulfilment of my undertaking entailed nearly six thousand miles of travel. It occupied as much time as I was enabled to snatch from the hours of a busy business life, thus making it impossible for me to extend my visits in outlying districts, or gratify my heartfelt desire to see and bear words of encouragement to our Companions colonial in the empire continent of the Australian seas.

The actual estimate of the strength of the work will be found in the reports of those officers who have charge of the districts. A perusal of these reports favors the view that criticism has in some cases been tempered, not to the shorn lamb, but to shield the older members of the flock from the cyclone of criticism which might sweep away whatever little of reputation they ever possessed as presiding officers of an intelligent assembly.

The duties of Superintendent call for some display of energy on the part of Companions accepting the office. It is pleasant and agreeable to visit Grand Chapter and return home clothed with imposing regalia, which is the emblem of authority, but to accept office and to ignore a solemn obligation to discharge the duties of that office is not in accordance with the morals of Masonry.

This reference is solely to the work in Algoma and Manitoba districts. In the former, one of three Chapters was visited; in the latter, two out of six. It must be said for the superintendents of these districts that their territory is one of magnificent distances, and that, even with increased facilities for travel, it is impossible for Companions, who like ourselves have each day to solve the problem of keeping the dollar they have in one hand, while the other is reaching for the dollar they have not, to give a large share of time to this work. We are all bread-winners. Some of us have that which we part with only, as our cousins across the border say, on the gold standard; others have or had acres in central locations, ornamented with corner lots, bought by the square foot and now sold by the acre, and a few are sleeping on pillows made up of the equities of redemption which grow small and beautifully less with each succeeding sunrise. With all our fraternal relations and ties of friendship, the house and home have, and rightly too, the first call. We cannot, therefore, expect men to sacrifice material interest and weeks of time to the development of the sentiment of good will for one another.

In those districts which are east of the Sault, my opportunities for experience with my Grand Superintendents have been the source of untold pleasure. They have been with me at early morn, when only the agricultural world was active, and far into the night, when most of our Companions were I trust, comfortably in bed. Yes, they have been with me by road and rail, in summer when the thermometer was climbing vigorously upward, and in winter when the telltale mercury had not for hours and days been upon speaking terms with zero. This testimony to the worth of earnest, painstaking and active men is given because deserved, and not on the principle that personal laudation is a mixture always kept in stock, to be given in large gulps to those who least deserve it.

Personal observation in seventy Chapters east of the Sault, indicates that the work in thirty-nine Chapters is of the highest character. Among these may be included the work of the Chapters at Dunnville, Oak-

ville, Toronto (St. Paul's), which by reason of exceptional accuracy in detail merits special mention. In fourteen of the Chapters the work is over the average, and yet lacks the attention to detail, which is of such material importance. Thirteen of the Chapters are struggling with the work and making some headway, but the improvement is intermittent and the general character of the work is slowly deteriorating. Eleven Chapters are marked by management which is noticeably indifferent, by interest which is apparently dead, and by an enthusiasm which is a dim tradition even to those young in the work.

Niagara Chapter is the story of a name without fame—a place once a fruitful Craft field, but to-day in Capitular work, a barren desert of buried hopes. Some men are eager to accept office utterly unconscious of the fact that incapacity has no place in the equipment of him who would guide work, either Craft or Capitular.

Amherstburg is another example of indifference to and neglect of the work. On election and installation nights the Chapter sees many faces. Combinations form and foreign influences interfere to such an extent that men are placed in office whose first and only appearance is perhaps made on these nights, for on all other occasions they find it convenient to be absent.

Alliston is another place where the work is dead beyond revival. Meaford is much the same. Grimsby has some embers of life left, but its revival is doubtful. Port Colborne has had discretion in its dying days, and has handed in its warrant and expired according to ancient custom. Chatham, Exeter and Lindsay are three places, each of which might be awarded a medal for apathy without any chance of a mistake being made. Indeed, nothing less than a fire at the Masonic Hall would secure a quorum of Companions at any one of these places. Rat Portage has a Chapter which is almost extinct.

Reviewing the entire roll in Ontario, with 39 Chapters doing high grade work, 14 over the average, 13 that, although below the average, are yet struggling for a place, there is reason for congratulation during the past year.

To this, of course, must be added the work of two Chapters in the Algoma District, 6 in the Manitoba District, 1 in British Columbia, and 6 in Australia, 15 Chapters, out of which at least 12 are doing fair work.

This gives 53 Chapters in first-class condition; and 13 doing work, indifferent as it may be, yet with prospects of bettering their position.

These are my views in connection with the work, based upon personal visits, and given with an endeavor to be fair and just in determining the character and condition of the Chapters.

The primal importance of actual personal inspection cannot be over-estimated. It is my belief that if this were carried out to the fullest extent, within two years every Chapter on the roll would be doing good average work.

PROPOSALS FOR NEW CHAPTERS.

The indifference displayed in many places to the interests of Capitular Masonry induces a hesitation in extending the work by the issue of dispensations or of warrants to new Chapters. Our printed records, with the roll of Chapters scattered over all parts of the jurisdiction, are external evidences of internal welfare. And yet, it is an easy thing to have an army on paper, with cannons on the ramparts and shot and shell stored for any emergency. But paper armies have vanished before to-day, and the sad lessons of defeat have shown that what is represented on paper must have material existence in the field. So it is with the work of Royal Arch Masonry. We may issue dispensations and establish Chapters, but if the workers are only represented by names on the roll call, if the officers are those who are on hand only at a church parade, an "At Home" or an official muster, where Masonic millinery is the best thing in the outfit, then is not a Grand First Principal justified in refusing to touch the button and give a vitality to an organization which would not reflect credit upon Masonic life?

Along this line comes the question of reviving dormant warrants, in places other than those in which they were originally located.

My personal experience in the writing of Masonic History has confirmed an opinion, uttered twenty years ago, that the removal of warrants from one part of the jurisdiction to the other was not in harmony with the progressiveness which should mark Capitular Masonry.

The fee for a new Chapter has been heretofore, \$50, a price not unreasonable considering that the fee for the Capitular degrees was \$20. In order, however, to extend the work, consent was given to the re-issue of old warrants at the reduced fee of \$10.

This opened the gateway, and from the east and west, from the north and south of the jurisdiction, requests were made and petitions duly filed for the re-issue of warrants which had already seen service.

The plea may have been in the interests of the Royal Arch, but marching along side of this plea was the factor that it was not only a cheap way of establishing new chapters at a discount of \$40 from the price of a new warrant, but also a scheme for obtaining an antiquity which had been earned by Companions, whose bones would almost rattle in the churchyard at the thought of their Masonic memories being in the care of those who might or might not reflect credit upon their names.

The warrants so removed, having Chapter names applicable to the locality, cease to possess any geographical significance, while the fact that those whose names appear on the warrant as Charter members are dead and gone, looks as if the scheme of revival were an enterprise for obtaining antiquity at a low price, with inducements to live men to climb a genealogical tree which might be admired for its age only.

Chapters cannot prosper in small centres. One lodge rarely develops searchers after the higher mysteries of the Royal Arch in sufficient numbers to give strength to a Chapter. Different lodges have different characteristics, but these are harmonized in the higher and unified life of the Chapter. One great element of strength in our system is its power to build stones hewn from many quarries into the perfected beauty of the Royal Arch.

PRE-REQUISITE TO SUCCESS.

The introduction of the work in the form adopted by Grand Chapter commends itself as a ready means of attaining an exemplification which existed only in a very crude form prior to the adoption of the present work. While it is true that in a few of the Chapters the moss-covered ritual of long ago is worked off on unsuspecting candidates, the percentage of these workers is so small that it is better to await the dispensations of a kindly Province than endeavor to discipline those who offend. In the former case the action would be permanent—in the latter it would be but temporary. One is reminded of these efforts when listening to obligations so constructed that they contained the condensed essentials of all the degrees, from the Entered Apprentice to those which were in vogue in the days of the Egyptian mysteries, when novices were tested with the terrors of the elements. There can be no efficiency without effort, and with effort would come a knowledge of the ritual which would save the work from being disfigured by absurdities in rendering.

THE REDUCTION OF OUR FEES.

The wisdom of the action taken by Grand Chapter in reducing the fee for degrees to \$10 may have been questioned, and justly so, when first discussed. It was a venture which had within it possibilities not of advantage to the Royal Arch. It was said to be a cheapening of Masonic privileges that would lessen the dignity of degrees which had acknowledged antiquity.

These views, however, are not justified by actual experience. The move was an excellent one from many points of view. It has enlivened the work in our Chapters. It has turned the streams of Craft-thought to refresh the fields of the Royal Arch. It has given us life in places where, Masonically speaking, death was lurking. It has revived the work so much that even veterans, who unbuckled their armour years ago, thinking that as they walked out chaos would walk in, have left their firesides and refreshed their memories with bits of ritual, which, if shortened by a couple of words, would leave them nothing to say.

DIFFICULTIES WE HAVE TO CONTEND WITH.

While these outward and visible signs of revival cheer our hearts, we have, nevertheless, to contend with difficulties which have not to be surmounted by other institutions.

The ground floor of our fraternal structure holds the initial part of the work, which gives, by the three sections of the Craft degrees, the right to go up higher and seek in the fourth section the brighter and clearer light of Masonry in the degrees of the Royal Arch. The Capitular degrees are of admitted antiquity. They contain the essentials of knowledge that give perfection to the Craft degrees, and which were not manufactured to suit the whims of those whose delight it was to face a camera and look pleasant as the artist perpetuates the grandeur of their regalia for the edification of generations yet unborn.

These thoughts meet us when we find that there are those who claim that the higher light shines elsewhere, that the Royal Arch is but a minor constellation, and that if the Craft Mason desires to see the sun of knowledge in all its radiance, and eventually find himself placed amongst the immortals, he must have a guide who knew not Moses, one of a tribe that is not descended from the princes and rulers of the Craft, but who can lead the wayfarer by pleasant roadways, where obligations vegetate and good company is the leading characteristic.

For other degrees in the field of Masonic labor one has, and truly, every regard and veneration. Men have the right to join any branch of Masonic work, but no man or men have the right to better the condition of the rites, to which they are partial, at the expense of an institution which saw the sunlight almost half a century before the rites alluded to were known to have either a father or mother.

The Royal Arch degree is one of merit. Its worth is shown in the fact that in the motherland it was for years an integral part of the Craft work. It stands and will stand as the perfection of Masonry. Other degrees may have in them the essentials and be good enough

Masonry for those who want them. Our degrees, however, are not counted as the millionaire counts his cash. We are not turning into the highways and by-ways Companions as moving advertisements of our work. Nor do we call to our aid the notation table and teach innocent Craftsmen to believe that a concentration of numerals proves that the possessor has the pathway to his greatness lined with libraries of knowledge, when every friend knows that all he owns are the steps that lead up to empty shelves.

The higher rites, any that you may select, are not the exalted end of the Masonic student's journey. They are pleasant picnic-grounds on the upward road, where worthy brothers, with the price of admission, may turn aside to be refreshed with good companionship and adorn their names with Roman numerals indicative of nothing but ability to pay for degrees. The Royal Arch Chapter is the real summit of the true Mason's journey, a height which is not to be attained by the sweat of a pocket-book, but which must be won by mental toil.

The Royal Arch has the right of way. It follows in the van of the primal degrees, and is the living impersonation and the recognized terminus of all that is legitimate in the Masonry that has been handed down by our fathers in the Craft.

This divergance for a few moments from the beaten track reminds me that other features of the work deserve attention.

THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION.

The committee in charge of the re-drafting of our Constitution will place the result of their labors before you, and it is to be hoped that their earnest effort made will be favored with your approval.

On one point in the proposed Constitution, I desire to express an opinion. The committee has introduced a clause providing for an officer to be known as a Grand Lecturer. This was a suggestion of my own—the result of considerable thought as I journeyed from Chapter to Chapter. It does not entail any expenditure whatever on the part of Grand Chapter, but gives those

Chapters which desire the services of such an officer an opportunity at a very moderate cost of perfecting themselves in the ritual under a thoroughly competent instructor. It is an experiment worthy of trial.

THE FINANCES OF GRAND CHAPTER.

An important matter for Grand Chapter is its financial investments. We are not a wealthy institution and yet we have some \$20,000 of funds, \$3,000 of which is invested in building society stock, and the remainder, about \$16,000, lies to our credit in the bank. One-fourth of this sum was invested a few years ago with a loan and building association, whose stock to-day is so low that a poor man, with but little ready cash, could be a millionaire in the face value of this stock. Fortunately we sold out and escaped what would have been a loss to-day of perhaps \$3,000, or over.

It is not my duty to criticise the standing of commercial companies. My business is with the funds of Grand Chapter. Safety is our first consideration. Our funds are trust funds and there should be no speculative investment in funds of that character. We have no right to invest in the securities of societies or companies that may, or may not, when assets are re-valued, be able to stand the strain. Nor should we, in our investments, be swayed by the influences and friendships of those of the Craft who are directly or indirectly interested in monied institutions. Prudent investors recognize the value of municipal and county bonds and debentures as the best form of security, and with this in view an opportunity will be offered to Grand Chapter in a few weeks to have city bonds, at a shade under 4 per cent. as an investment for surplus funds. It is better to have $3\frac{7}{8}$ per cent. or $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. sure, than $4\frac{1}{2}$ or 5 per cent. with the element of doubtful value. The shrinkage, which has struck every form of business and every line of trade, affects loan institutions. Property on the red-lined balance sheet of a loan society only increases in value by the addition of interest and of taxes, and when re-values have to be made, if they ever are, the decrease in value is not encouraging. If we must invest in monetary institutions, let us choose those which receive money at first hand from the investor, and not institutions

which have to seek the aid of chartered banks or the larger trust companies.

INSTRUCTIONS IN THE CHAPTERS.

I have held under my personal direction thirteen Chapters of Instruction during the past year. At these all the degrees have been exemplified. The attendance, except at the meeting at Chatham, was satisfactory. The work at London, Barrie, Belleville, Brockville, Almonte and Windsor, was excellent, while that at Toronto and Oakville was of the highest character. The Mark work of Dunnville Chapter, and the Royal Arch work St. Paul's, Toronto, and of Oakville Chapter, were an example of earnest study and exact attention to every detail never excelled in the jurisdiction.

OUR AUSTRALIAN COMPANIONS.

Coincidences that mark our lives are illustrated by the fact that as this paragraph is being written, the Australian mail brings with it the announcement from our Grand Superintendent, that union on terms honorable to our Companions in the Australian District and to those of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, has been agreed upon, and that the fusion will be consummated on next Friday, the 20th of July. The terms of union will be found in the report of our Grand Superintendent. They provide for a recognition of the past rank of our officers, for foundation warrants from the Grand Chapter of Victoria, for our Chapters, free registration of our members at date of amalgamation, and that dispensations be granted by the Grand Chapter of Victoria for the installation of officers elected at the meeting in each Chapter succeeding amalgamation.

Judging by the report of our Grand Superintendent and by personal letters received, the basis of union is one that is satisfactory. May it prove to be so. May the memory of whatever of unrest existed in the past be forgotten forever. May the union now accomplished lead to the building up of another stronghold of the Royal Arch, guarded by Companions with hands and hearts united, in a land pre-eminent for enterprise, and dear to us as Canadians because of its place in the circle of our world-wide British nation.

THE MEETING DATE OF GRAND CHAPTER.

The question of changing the date of the meeting of Grand Chapter has been discussed by many Companions during the past year.

The Committee on the Constitution considered the matter, and although favorable to the idea, determined to leave the decision to Grand Chapter without a recommendation.

Years ago the proposal was made to have a Masonic week, once each year, when all organizations, Craft and Capitular, as well as those affiliated by custom, would meet and transact the business and other duties pertaining to each. The proposal was carried into effect and for fifteen years past, a week in July has been occupied with Masonic work.

The feeling that more interest would be created in each department of the work, that a larger attendance would be secured, and that a more general prosperity would wait upon us induced the promoters of the movement to carry it into effect.

While there may be an increase in the average of attendance by other institutions meeting in the same week, the average number of Chapters represented is about the same as it was ten years ago, and a review of the proceedings does not show the advantages anticipated. Indeed, an opinion prevails that our meeting in the same week as the Craft Grand Lodge lessens our importance and obscures our identity, and decreases the interest, by reason of the relatively greater questions which occupy the mind of the Craft Grand Lodge.

This is a subject of paramount importance to Grand Chapter, and a proposal that we should foregather in midwinter, when the demands of business are not so pressing upon those who toil either in city or country, is worthy of the fullest consideration.

This Grand Chapter is a sovereign organization, with an honorable record of thirty-eight years. It has raised the standard of Capitular work, and commands the regard and respect of kindred bodies. If the view that we are lost in the Masonic maze by meeting in the same week as other bodies be true, then by all means

let us try, if only as an experiment, the effect of assembling at another time, when our energies will not be divided, when our time will be at our command and not subordinate, as it is to-day, to the business of another body, which naturally takes precedence.

THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

The exchange of representatives with foreign Grand Chapters, and the appointment of Companions to positions of that character, remind me that the representative system is to be discussed in the Craft Grand Lodge. The representative system has been established for many years. It originated with the Grand Lodge of an American jurisdiction, and in its initial form subordinate lodges of various jurisdictions exchanged representatives as evidences of fraternity, as tokens of friendship. When adopted by Grand Lodge it assumed a more enlarged form, and has gained such favor that with, perhaps one exception, every Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter adhere to the system. It may not have all the advantages intended by its founders, but it has the merit at least, of marking friendly relations which exist between Craft Jurisdictions, and the very act of appointment is evidence of a desire to strengthen and cement the bond that mutually joins all organizations known to be Masonic. Some allege that these representatives are but flies upon the Masonic wheel, that in their appointment there is no end to serve, no purpose in view. It may be said that this does not apply to those selected in connection with Grand Chapter, for four years ago a very important service was rendered by the representative of this Grand Chapter, near an American Grand Chapter, a service which was gratefully acknowledged. Also, within a few months, another act of kindness was performed in the interests of Companions of this jurisdiction by an American representative, which gave considerable comfort to those concerned. These cases I recall. There are also others, of which I have not the date at hand. The existence of representatives is no burden upon the revenue of Grand Chapter. They have not salaried rank. These have been and may again be, examples of good having been done by them, and they can never do harm. They represent a sentiment,

but there is a strength in sentiment, and it would not be well to lose that strength by abolishing the Grand Representatives. The report of the Grand Scribe E. contains a list of those whom I have recommended as representatives at our Grand Chapter from foreign Chapters.

THE CORRECT FORM OF MARKS.

My attention has been called to the use of heraldic signs and coats of arms in the book of marks of some Chapters. My opinion is that the marks selected should be Masonic in character, and composed of lines in any form, whether in squares, triangles, right angles or circles, or a selected combination of all. These marks were originally in the operative lodges used by the members to indicate their work, and in all transactions recorded in the lodge books, where a signature was necessary, after it came the mark.

Some Companions in our jurisdiction have found in their ancestral garrets a coat of arms, which may or may not be theirs, and adopt these arms as a Masonic mark, and enter it in the book of marks, and engrave it on their keystone. This insignia, so selected, is neither Masonic nor appropriate. There is a place for coats of arms, but Masonic records are not that place. The Operative Masters of the Craft, when they wielded the mallet and chisel, gained their right to mark their work by years of toil. And so let our work bear the mark of merit, and not the painted quarters of insignia, which have no place in a land where character is the test, and an unsullied reputation and good citizenship count for more than all the trimming which money or favor can glue on the fabric of a mortal life.

THE CASE OF CARLETON CHAPTER.

It is a pleasure to state that harmony has prevailed during the past year, and that, with one or two exceptions, nothing has occurred to disturb the even tenor of good will for which this jurisdiction is noted.

One case, however, requires special mention. At the last meeting of Grand Chapter, the Committee on Warrants recommended that the dispensation, issued to Dufferin Chapter at Carleton Place, be continued for

another year, from the fact that some slight unrest had occurred in the Chapter, and it was thought probable that the extension of the dispensation might lead to the settlement of the difficulties. My absence for a few weeks in Europe prevented my personal attention to the matter, but I directed the Grand Scribe E. to attend at Carleton Place, convene a special meeting of the Chapter, hear the opinions of Companions and endeavor to adjust matters, and that if he found it absolutely impossible to arrange an amicable settlement to withdraw the dispensation. The Grand Scribe E. acted in accordance with my instructions, listened to a lengthened discussion in the Chapter, and seeing that there was no possible hope of a reconciliation, withdrew the dispensation, leaving the books and appointments of the Chapter in the care of its First Principal. His action he reported to me and I have endorsed the same. At a later date another petition for a dispensation was forwarded for a Chapter at Carleton Place, and, after an examination of the names thereon, I issued a dispensation for a Chapter to be known as "Maple Leaf Chapter," and the officers were installed in due form. This is one of the four Chapters out of 79 in this province which I have been unable to visit, but I witnessed an exemplification of its work at Almonte, and can testify to its accuracy, and also to the earnestness of the officers of Maple Leaf Chapter.

My ruling has been asked in regard to the exemplification of foreign work in this jurisdiction. My opinion is that the standard and authorized work of this Grand Chapter should alone prevail in the jurisdiction. The introduction of foreign work, with dramatic embellishments is apt to create dissatisfaction and discontent amongst the younger Companions, who, in the early days of their Capitular lives, are easily swayed by the alleged beauties of a ritual decorated with ornamentations that are not in harmony with Canadian methods or manners.

THE PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.

The Past Master's degree, having been eliminated from our system, a Chapter in our western district asks permission to still continue that section of the work on

the ground that, being on the International line, it facilitates the entry of our Companions into foreign Chapters. Grand Chapter having abolished the P. M. degree, no authority can be given for its continuance in any Chapter, and to confer the degree is therefore a direct violation of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, subjecting the Chapter, so working, to discipline. The P. M. degree never had a right to even a place in the Capitular System. It gained favor here years ago as a relic of a custom that prevailed in the old land when the Craft chair was a pre-requisite to the Capitular. This condition has passed away. The P. M. degree belongs, and always did, to the Craft work, and the conferring of the degree in a Chapter is an attempt to give exalted rank and knowledge to men, many of whom are not out of leading strings in Craft work. The legitimate Past Master is to be found in the Craft Lodge. The imitation article is to be found in Capitular jurisdictions which undertake to confer the degree. There is enough legitimate Masonry in our particular branch of the work, without importing an extraneous ceremony, which has features repellant to the instincts of men who reverence the teachings of Masonry.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The report on Foreign Correspondence this year has been written by R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett. It is a masterly effort, and will be read, I am sure, with pleasure by not only our own Companions, but by those other jurisdictions who peruse our proceedings.

A WORD IN CLOSING.

If during the year my interest in the work has not been proclaimed by the silent eloquence of action, no words of mine will proclaim that interest now.

Whatever you disagree with in my message, you can attribute to an excess of enthusiasm. If my zeal has not spared the feelings of any Companion, I hope the Companion will remember that the same zeal has not spared my time or my comfort.

It is just possible that I take Masonic life too seriously, but I feel, as one who has a deep interest in the work, that unless Grand Chapter is more rigid in its

requirements from those selected for office, it is a waste of time for a Grand Z, to travel miles to kindle fires out of embers that have almost ceased to smoulder, and view ruins which human skill cannot rebuild.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,
Grand Z.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved, That the address of the M. E. Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented :

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z, Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

I beg to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in St. Clair District.

On the 21st of November, 1894 I visited Eric Chapter No. 73, Ridgetown, when there was a large attendance of the Companions. None of the degrees were exemplified, but an interesting discussion was held, satisfactory in its results. The Companions present expressed a determination to instill new life into the Chapter, which for some time had been practically dormant. Since my visit I have learnt that the Chapter has made a fresh start, has admitted a large number of new members and is working with renewed vigor and harmony.

On the 26th of November, 1894, I visited Prince of Wales Chapter No. 71, of Amherstburg, when a portion of the Mark degree was exemplified. This Chapter has among its members a number of Companions who are enthusiastic Masons and anxious to further the best interests of the Chapter, yet there is evidently a great deal lacking to make it successful. Considerable difficulty is experienced in getting a sufficient number of members together to work the Chapter, as a natural result of want of practice the work is not well done, and in many respects, I regret to say, the Chapter is not progressive.

On the 27th November, 1894, I visited Ark Chapter No. 80, Windsor, upon the occasion of a Chapter of Instruction summoned by the request of the Grand Z. and presided over by him. The ceremony of exaltation was exemplified in a satisfactory manner, the work of the E. Z. and some of the officers being very accurate. This Chapter is strong, active and vigorous, a credit to the district.

On the 23rd November, 1894, I paid an official visit to my own Chapter, McNabb No. 88, Dresden, and had the honor of receiving the Grand Z. The degree of R. A. was conferred, and the M. E. the Grand Z. expressed himself as well satisfied with the work. This Chapter is not strong in numbers, but is strong in the enthusiasm of its members. The officers take pride in their work and the only difficulty in the way of the success of the Chapter may be the lack of new material.

During the latter portion of my year of office, I have been obliged to devote all my attention and time to my business interests and neglect entirely my Masonic duties in the district, very much to my regret, for this reason I have not been able to visit Wellington Chapter No. 47, Chatham.

Speaking generally, I am led to the conclusion that the location of Chapters in small towns and villages, with any one Craft Lodge with which to draw a supply of new material, is not desirable in the best interests of Masonry. At first whilst the members have plenty of work they keep up a lively interest in the Chapter, and it prospers; after a time the supply of desirable material from the Craft Lodge becomes exhausted, from lack of work the Chapter meetings become uninteresting, and are more and more neglected by the Companions. Eventually the brethren who were enthusiastic members of a progressive Craft Lodge have been converted into listless Companions of a dormant Chapter, to the injury of both Craft and Capitular Masonry.

May I be permitted to say that Chapters (in my opinion) should be located only in the large centers, supported by a number of craft lodges. Dead or dying branches are not ornamental, nor conducive to healthy

life in the parent tree, good husbandry would cut them away, giving room and added vigor to the sound and healthy branches.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dresden, 1st July, 1895.

J. W. SHARPE,
Grand Supt. St. Clair District

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I herewith submit my report on the condition and prospects of Capitular Masonry in London District.

I visited all the Chapters, seven in number, and without exception found them in a prosperous and healthy condition. It is especially gratifying to be able to report the revival and present encouraging condition of Minnewawa Chapter No. 78, Parkhill, and Bruce Chapter No. 53 Petrolia. These Chapters which were dormant for several years are now not only alive and well, but working with most commendable zeal. My active duties began with the summoning of a Chapter of Instruction, under the direction of the Grand Z. at London, Nov. 16th, 1894, which was held in the Blue Room of the Masonic Temple. There were present Companions from all parts of the district and several from other districts to the number of about 150. Among the distinguished companions present were M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Past Grand Z., M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, Past Grand Z., R. E. Comps. Burke, Dewar, Munson, Cooper, and others. At the afternoon session the degree of M. M. was conferred by St. George's Chapter No. 5, London, E. Comp. McWhinney occupying the chair as W. M., and the degree of M. E. M. by Palestine Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas, with E. Comp. H. Bradshaw in the chair. In the evening the Royal Arch degree was conferred by St. John's Chapter No. 3, London, with E. Comp. Alexander Currie as First Principal, and St. George's No. 5 of the same place, E. Comp. A. McWhinney, First Principal. The work throughout was well done, and gave evidence of careful study and close attention to details. At the close of the evening work the Comp-

anions were hospitably entertained by the two city Chapters, when addresses of universal interest were made by the Grand Z., the Past Grand Zs and others. During my subsequent visits to the different Chapters, evidence was not wanting that much benefit had resulted from this meeting.

WAWANOSH NO. 15—On the 23rd day of November I visited this Chapter which meets regularly at Sarnia the second Friday of every month. This is one of the most active Chapters in the district, all the officers being exceptionally well skilled. E. Comp. Woods, Z., the 2nd and 3rd Principals and the acting P. S. Comp. Winlow who has since been elected First Principal, all performed their work in the exemplification of the Royal Arch degree in an exemplary manner. Total present membership 61, Convocations held during the year, 24, 12 regular and 12 emergent, when the following work was done: M. M. M., 30, M. E. M., 28 R. A., 28. The number of members who are in arrears two years or upwards is reported to be 9, three years or more, none; value of furniture, \$120, with no insurance. No inventory is kept. The books of the S. E. and Treasurer are carefully and neatly kept. The funds are deposited in a chartered bank. There are no liabilities. The Chapter had no representative at the last meeting of Grand Chapter.

The meetings are held in the Royal Arcanum Lodge room, which is not well adapted for Chapter work. I was informed that there was a prospect of securing better quarters in the near future. Among those present was the veteran worker in Royal Craft Masonry, R. E. Comp. Judge Mackenzie, who, during the period of depression and partial eclipse had lost faith in the Chapter's future. His words of cheer at the close of the labors of the evening indicated his pleasure at seeing the work admirably carried out by the officers of the Chapter in whose welfare he is so deeply interested and over which he for so many years presided.

On the occasion of my visit there was an attendance of 30 members, the register showing an average of 17. The prospects are exceedingly bright.

ST. JOHN'S No. 3, London—I visited this Chapter

on the 27th day March last. There was a good attendance of members and visitors among them, R. E. Companions Dewar, Burke, Munson, Cooper, Carruthers. Two degrees were worked; the M. E. M. with R. E. Comp. Carruthers as W. M. in a prompt and impressive manner; and the R. A. by the First Principal and his officers, in a manner efficient and highly satisfactory. The books of the S. E. and treasurer are kept, and the funds of the Chapter disposed of in accordance with the regulations of Grand Chapter. The present total membership is 113; number of Convocations during the year, 16; of which 12 were regular and 4 emergent. Average attendance 20. This Chapter has been immensely active during the past year, the work done being as follows:—M. M. M. 30; M. E. M. 28; R. A. 28. Number of members in arrears two years or upwards, 10; three or more, none; value of furniture and jewels, \$330, with an insurance of \$250; liabilities, nil. The Chapter was represented by E. Comp. Alexander Currie at the last meeting of Grand Chapter. The prospects of continued prosperity are of the brightest. Officered throughout with Companions, energetic, painstaking, and withal prudent, there can be no fear of retrogression. My report would be incomplete were I to overlook the large attendance of Past Principals. The continued interest of Past Z's in the welfare of their Chapter is one of the best evidences of a healthy condition.

PALESTINE No. 54—This Chapter meets at St. Thomas on the second Thursday of every month, On the 11th of April I made my official visit. There was a fair attendance. The R. A. degree was conferred by E. Comp. H. Bradshaw and his officers in a very satisfactory manner. The present membership is 86. Number of Convocations held during the year, 11, regular, 10, emergent 1; average attendance, 13. The work of the year was as follows: M. M. M. 2; M. E. M. 2; R. A. 2. Number reported in arrears two years or upwards, 9, three years or more, 8. The furniture is valued at \$500 and is insured for \$300, liabilities nil. The books of the S. E. and Treasurer are kept in a highly satisfactory manner and a proper inventory is kept. This Chapter last year was represented by Ex. Comp. H. Bradshaw.

I had the pleasure of meeting on the occasion of my official visits R. E. Comp. McKay, who, after many years of faithful service in the cause of the Royal Craft, has lost none of his early zeal, and who may be relied on to fill almost any position in the Chapter at a moment's notice. While the work has been very light, especially for a city with two flourishing Blue Lodges, and while the average attendance is not what it should be, still I am assured that the prospects are good, and that there are likely to be large additions to the membership in the near future.

AYLMER, No. 81.—This Chapter meets at Aylmer on the Friday on or after full moon. I made my official visit April 19th. The M. E. M. was conferred by E. Comp. J. B. Huffinan, Z., who with the other officers did the work in a very satisfactory manner. The total present membership is 50. Number of convocations 13, of which 9 were regular and 4 emergent. Average attendance 18. Number in arrears over two years 4, three years or more, 2. The work of the year was as follows: M. M. M., 3; M. E. M., 3; R. A., 3. The furniture is valued at \$300 and is insured. An inventory is kept. There are no liabilities.

This being my own Chapter I have had the privilege of attending all the Convocations. While the report shows but little work done still the Chapter is in a healthy condition, the interest is well maintained, the attendance good, and the officers have the work of all the degrees well in hand.

My report would not be complete were I to neglect to mention the continued and increasing interest of the Past First Principals, almost all of whom are regular in their attendance. The prospects are bright.

ST. GEORGE'S NO. 3, London.—On the 26th day of April last I visited this Chapter, which meets the fourth Friday of every month in the Blue Room of the Masonic Temple. This room is large and well appointed for the exemplification of the several degrees in Capitular Masonry. There was a large attendance of members and visitors, including 14 Past Principals. Among the latter were M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Past Grand Z., R. E. Comps. Burke and Munson, V. E. Com. L. W.

Burke, E. Comps. Broderic, McWhinney, Duff and Stratfold. The Royal Arch was conferred in an exceedingly accurate and impressive manner, leaving no ground whatever for adverse criticism. Every officer, from the First Principal, E. Comp. A. Campbell, to the humblest in rank, displayed the greatest skill in his work.

The present membership numbers 98. Number of convocations held during the year 15, 10 regular and 5 emergent, with an average attendance of 20. The past year has been one of activity, as the following work shows: M. M. M., 22; M. E. M., 21; R. A., 19. Seven Companions are reported to be in arrears 2 years, three 3 years and more. The books of the S. E. and Treasurer are in good order. Value of furniture \$600; liabilities nil. The Chapter holds one thousand paid up stock in the London Masonic Temple. The prospects are exceedingly good.

MINNEWAWA, No. 78, Parkhill.—This Chapter holds its regular Convocations on the third Wednesday of every month. I had the pleasure of making my visit on the occasion of the official visit of the M. E. the Grand Z., May 15th. Some 25 Companions were present. The R. A. degree was conferred by E. Comp. Dr. Caw and his officers in a highly creditable manner. When it is considered that after nearly eight years of inertia, work was renewed only a little more than a year ago, too much credit cannot be given the officers for their skill displayed in all the details of the work. The present membership is 29. The number of Convocations held during the past year 12, 8 regular and 4 emergent. Average attendance 12. The work of the year shows degrees conferred as follows: M. M. M., 9; M. E. M., 9; R. A., 9. Number of members two years in arrears, 2; three years or more, none. The furniture is valued at \$200, with no insurance. There are no liabilities. The books of the S. E. and Treasurer are kept in a very satisfactory manner. There was no representative at the last Grand Chapter meeting. This Chapter has able and energetic officers, and from the enthusiasm of the Companions in general I have no doubt that bright days are in store for it, and that my successor will be able a year hence to report large additions to the membership.

BRUCE, No. 53, Petrolia.—This Chapter holds its regular Convocations on the first Thursday of every month. I made my official visit on the 23rd day of May last. There was a very fair attendance of members and visitors. Among the latter were E. Comp. Winlow, the present Z., and E. Comp. Dexter, Oliver and Grant, Past Z's of Wawanosh Chapter No. 5, Sarnia. The work of the evening was the conferring of the R. A. degree on four candidates. As this Chapter had been aroused from sleep only some four months prior to my visit, I did not expect to find the officers thoroughly awake yet, and was therefore most agreeably surprised at the careful and accurate rendering of the work on the part of the three Principals and the P. S. Too much credit cannot be given to R. E. Comp. Sinclair and E. Comps. Scott and Maun, who have been indefatigable in their efforts to re-establish and ensure the permanence of this Chapter with the result that since February of the present year 11 candidates have been given the M. M. M. degree, 11 the M. E. M., and 11 the R. A. 12 Convocations have been held, 6 regular and 6 emergent. The present membership is 44; average attendance 12; 15 are in arrears two years, and 15 over three years. The furniture is valued at \$200 and is insured. Liabilities for rent of room \$85. An effort is being made to reduce the amount of arrears and wipe out the liabilities. From the great interest shown by the Past Z's, whom I have mentioned, I have reason to report good prospects, and to believe that my successor will find here a flourishing Chapter.

The outlook for Capitular Masonry in London District is certainly very bright. In evidence I need only call your attention to the large increase in membership, to the sound financial condition of the Chapters, and to the general interest as seen in the uniform careful attention to the prescribed work. While the year has been marked by unusual activity among the Chapters, no grievances have come under my observation. I have had no revilings, no harrassing decisions to make. But one dispensation was issued, to St. George's No. 5, London, to permit the Companions to attend Divine service clothed as R. A. Masons.

There is one evil, which in my judgment is altogether too prevalent at least in this district, to which I desire to call the attention of Grand Chapter. I refer to the practice of advancing candidates from one degree to another, even to the Royal Arch itself, without testing their proficiency in the former degrees. May not this be one of the potent causes of that lack of interest so often displayed in after years. Just as proficiency is made the ground of promotion of office in all well ordered Chapters, so should familiarity with the symbolic teaching of a degree be made the pre-requisite to advancement to the higher.

In conclusion, I have to thank the officers and Companions for their uniform courtesy and kindness. When in the performance of my duties I have had occasion to point out irregularities, or to suggest improvements. I have not failed to observe an honest effort to follow the directions given. Without exception I have been received with a true fraternal welcome. I desire especially to acknowledge my obligation to the officers and Companions of the two London Chapters for having voluntarily assumed the responsibility of completing arrangements for the Chapter of Instruction, and for their hospitality on that occasion to all visiting Companions.

I append a brief summary of the condition, work and prospects of the various Chapters.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. W. RUTHERFORD,

Grand Superintendent London District.

Aylmer, Ont., 1st July, 1895.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN LONDON DISTRICT FROM JUNE 1, 1894, TO MAY 31, 1895.

No.	CHAPTER.	PLACE.	Membership	MEETINGS.			Average.	DEGREES.				Arrears two yrs. or more.	Value of Furniture.	Insurance.	Liabilities.	Prospects.
				Regular.	Emerg't.	Total.		M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A.	Total.					
3	St. John's.....	London	113	12	4	16	20	30	28	28	86	10	\$330	\$250	Nil.	Good.
5	St. George's.....	London	98	10	5	15	20	22	21	19	62	10	600	400	"	"
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia	61	12	12	24	17	30	28	28	86	9	120	....	"	"
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia....	44	6	6	12	12	11	11	11	33	30	200	200	\$85	"
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.	86	10	1	11	13	2	2	2	6	17	500	300	Nil.	"
78	Minnewawa.....	Parkhill....	29	8	4	12	12	9	9	9	27	2	200	....	"	"
81	Aylmer	Aylmer	50	9	4	13	18	3	3	3	9	6	300	200	"	"

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

The following report I beg to submit on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Wilson District for the year 1894-5, and in doing so I have much pleasure in testifying to the general harmony prevailing and good work done in all the Chapters, though the interest manifested in some is far in advance of others. The Principals are all capable officers, and the same may be said of the Scribes E. In all cases the Chapter property is insured and carefully protected.

HARRIS, No. 41, Ingersoll, is an example of faithful and substantial work. The members do not increase rapidly, but there is great interest taken by the members, some of whom live several miles from the town. On my official visit M. M. degree was well exemplified. The Chapter is in a healthy condition and the officers are fortunate in having the able assistance of R. E. Comp. Walsh.

EZRA, No. 23, Simcoe has a live set of officers and, on the occasion of my official visit on the 26th April, the R. A. Degree was well worked. The success is in a great measure due to the efforts of R. E. Comp. Christie. Prospects are good.

OXFORD, No. 23, Woodstock, has gained slightly in membership during the past year. It has a good staff of officers who receive valuable assistance from R. E. Comp. Gavin Stewart, E. Comp. Karn and other past officers. On May 31st when I made my official visit, owing to the illness of E. Comp. Rippon, the position of Z. was filled by E. Comp. McDonald who exemplified the M. M. Degree excellently, ably supported by the best of the officers.

BRANT, No. 116, Paris—The youngest in the district bids fair to take a foremost rank. It is well officered and has many energetic workers. I visited this Chapter three times and noticed marked improvements. On June 14th I paid my official visit and was much pleased to see the R. A. degree so well exemplified. The attendance was most creditable, and makes a record

difficult to surpass, twenty-four being present out of a membership of twenty-seven. The Z, E. Comp. Cox is most enthusiastic and the manner in which he and his officers did the work would reflect credit on many older Chapters. On the 21st June, assisted by E. Comp. Secord, Z. of Mt. Horeb, I installed the officers for 1895-6. The prospects for this Chapter are bright.

MOUNT HOREB, No. 20, Brantford possesses a good staff of officers and has plenty of work to do, and all it needs to give it the place it ought to occupy is a livelier interest on the part of the Companions. Applications for membership are constantly received, the roll is increasing and the finances are in a good condition. On June 11th I made my official visit. As the E. Z. was absent owing to urgent professional duties, E-Comp. Cox, E. Z. of Brant Chapter who is also a member of Mount Horeb, conferred the M. M. degree. The work was well done and was appreciated by the Companions of Mount Horeb. The prospects of this Chapter are good.

In closing my report I would refer to the sociability and brotherly feeling that characterized all the Convocations at which I had the pleasure to be present throughout the whole district.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

S. F. PASSMORE,
Grand Supt. Wilson District.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

I beg herewith to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Wellington District, which is composed of five good working Chapters.

I have officially visited all except Waterloo Chapter, No. 32, Galt, which I was unable to visit on account of their calling off in the fore part of the summer.

I have visited Enterprise Chapter, No. 63, Harriston, three times during the year, and found on my last visit a marked improvement. The Companions are deter-

mined to make Enterprise Chapter one of the best in the District. They have done considerable work during the year in which I had the pleasure of assisting.

My visit to SEYMOUR CHAPTER, No. 338, Shelburne was a very pleasant one. I had the honor of conferring the Royal Arch degree assisted by the Grand Z. and the Grand Scribe E. Seymour Chapter is composed of some of the best business men of Shelburne. I have no doubt but that it will become one of the most active Chapters in the district, as the Companions are all energetic. I see by the notices that they have had work during the year.

My visit to IONIC CHAPTER, No. 83, Orangeville was very gratifying to me. They had plenty of work during the year. The officers are competent of conferring all the degrees in a first class manner. The Chapter is in a very flourishing condition. The Companions of Ionic Chapter take a deep interest in the work and are very regular in attendance. They had work to do at almost every meeting.

GUELPH CHAPTER, No. 40, being my mother Chapter I was present at every meeting. I regret to say very little work was done during the year. I have every reason to believe that the coming year will be a most prosperous one.

We had the pleasure of a visit from the Grand Z. who entertained the Companions with a pleasing address and a description of his travels to the West Indies.

All of the Chapters are in good financial standing and the books are well kept.

Before closing I wish to convey my thanks to the officers and Companions of the several Chapters in Wellington District for their kind acts and courtesy extended to me on my official visits.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

RICHARD MAHONEY,
Grand Supt. Wellington District.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Hamilton District.

It comprises four Chapters, viz.: Hiram No. 2, and St. John's No. 6, of the City of Hamilton; St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, Milton, and White Oak Chapter, No. 164, Oakville.

During the year harmony has prevailed throughout the district. I have had no question submitted to me requiring a ruling or an investigation.

It affords me great pleasure to say that notwithstanding the depression in financial affairs, and the number of competitive societies, every Chapter in the district has added to its number, and are in good working order. My visits through the district were most enjoyable, and my reception by the Companions was in every case cordial and no labor was spared to do honor to my office. •

The average attendance of the Companions (more particularly the Past Z's of the city Chapters) at the regular Convocations is not nearly as large as it should be. I have called the attention of the Chapters to this matter when making my official visits.

HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 2, Hamilton.—My first visit of importance was on October 29th, 1894, when I visited a joint meeting held by Hiram Chapter, No. 2, and St. John's No. 6, to receive the M. E. the Grand Z. on his official visit. The M. M. M., M. E. M. and R. A. were exemplified in a most satisfactory manner. There were present E. Comp. Forbes, of Grimsby, R. E. Comps. J. Malloy, Hugh Murray and Alexander Smith, and E. Comps. T. McCallum and W. R. Job.

CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION AT OAKVILLE.—A Chapter of Instruction was held in White Oak Chapter, No. 104, Oakville, in December, 1894. The attendance was large and was honored with a visit from M. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, Grand Z., R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Grand J., and R. E. Comp. John Malloy, R. E. Comp. Pantou, E. Comp. Conrad Hoff, of Milton,

E. Comps. T. M. Davis, Robert Magness, C. V. Emory and Fred. Walter, of Hiram Chapter, E. Comps. Thos. McCallum and W. R. Job, of St. John's Chapter, and E. Comp. G. W. Calvert, of St. George's Chapter.

A Lodge of M. M. M. was opened at 6 o'clock by St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, Milton. E. Comp. Conrad Hoff exemplified the degree in a creditable manner. A Lodge of M. E. M. was opened at 7 o'clock by Hiram Chapter No. 2, Hamilton, E. Comp. C. V. Emory as W. M., F. Walter as S. W., and Thos. Smith as J. W. The degree was rendered effectively by E. Comp. C. V. Emory. The Royal Arch Chapter was duly opened at 8 o'clock by Oak Chapter, of Oakville, E. Comp. W. Speers, Z., E. Comp. Andrews, H., E. Comp. Hilmer, J., Comp. Mallet, P. S. The R. A. was exemplified in an exact and impressive manner, each officer doing his work well. During the exemplification of the degree I was pleased with the attention paid to the points of detail in which changes have been recently made in the work. While St. Clair Chapter was not up to my expectations, they are improving and I hope will do excellent work in the future.

The Oakville Chapter may be justly proud of the manner in which they exemplified the Royal Arch degree. The work elicited commendation from the M. E. the Grand Z., who expressed himself as not having seen it worked better in any part of the jurisdiction. The Grand Z. then gave a most interesting and instructive lecture on Masonic work, which was appreciated by all present. At the close of the meeting White Oak Chapter invited the visitors to a magnificent banquet tendered to the M. E. G. Z. and other distinguished Companions present. The M. E. the G. Z. expressed the pleasure it gave him at meeting the Companions, and congratulated them on their good work, and also replied in fitting terms to the kindly welcome extended to him. Appropriate speeches were made by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, J. Malloy, and other Companions, which closed a successful Chapter of Instruction.

HIRAM, No. 2, Hamilton, meets in Masonic Hall, James street north. I have visited this Chapter at all its regular meetings during the year, and have seen all

the degrees exemplified in an efficient and satisfactory manner by the officers of both 1894-5. Paid an official visit to the Chapter on September 3rd, 1894; there were also present Past Z. H. Sweetman, T. McCallum, W. R. Job, D. McPhie and Alex. Smith. After the Royal Arch degree was exemplified I presided at the election of officers which resulted as follows: E. Comp. C. V. Emory, Z.; Ex. Comp. Fred Walter, H., and Comp. Thos. Smith, J. Number of members on roll, 183; average attendance, —. Degrees conferred, 5 M. M. M.; 4 M. E. M.; 3 R. Arch. Liabilities nil. Assets \$2,800. Meetings are held regularly. Officers attend regularly. Own furniture to the value of \$466.66, being one-third of total value, as it is owned jointly by St. John's Chapter and Godfrey Bouillion Preceptory, which is insured for \$1500. Dues are \$4.00 per year, and initiation fee, \$20.00. Outstanding dues are \$130. I visited this Chapter officially on January 7th, 1895, and installed the officers for 1895, assisted by R. E. Comp. Malloy and E. Comp. T. McCallum. The books of the Scribe E. are a model of neatness, and the Chapter is fortunate in having so efficient a Scribe E. as Comp. Geo. E. Mason.

ST. JOHN'S, NO. 6.—This is my own Chapter. I have visited all but one of its regular meetings during the year. Visited this Chapter officially on December 13th. There were also present R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, G. J., M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, P. G. Z., R. E. Comps. D. McPhie and John Malloy, and E. Comps. C. V. Emory and F. Walter. I presided at the election of officers which resulted as follows: E. Comp. W. R. Job, Z.; Comp. A. T. Neill, H., and Comp. Thos. Pedlar, J. They are an efficient staff of officers who are both capable and willing. I found the books well kept. Comp. W. J. McAllister, the Scribe E., is a painstaking and efficient officer. Number on roll, 223; average attendance, 27; outstanding dues, \$150; assets, \$3,240; liabilities, nil. Dues are \$3.00 per year. Initiations \$20. Meetings held regularly. Officers attend regularly. Hall rented from Masonic Hall Association. Share of furniture, \$466.66, being one-third of its value. Insured for \$1500. Work done during the year, M. M. M., M. E. M., R. A.

I visited this Chapter again officially on Jan. 7th, and installed the officers for 1895, assisted by R. E. Comps. Malloy and Smith. I have witnessed all the work done during the year. E. Comp. W. R. Job, Z., is noted as a thorough and impressive ritualist, and is ably assisted by Comps. Neill and Pedlar. The work done was always good. I was much pleased to see a resolution on the minutes of this Chapter requesting the Grand Chapter to confer the degree of Past Principal on Comp. W. J. McAllister, the Scribe E. I trust that the Grand Chapter will grant this request, as I know of no Companion in the district more deserving of this honor.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, NO. 75, Milton.—I visited this Chapter officially on March 7th, 1895, accompanied by R. E. Comp. John Malloy, E. Comps. T. McCallum T. M. Davis and Thomas Pedlar, Comps. W. J. McAllister and E. Arthur. The Royal Arch degree was exemplified in a satisfactory manner. Credit is due E. Comp. C. Hoff for the exact way in which he does his work. It is to be regretted that more of the Companions do not take greater interest in the Chapter. It has held ten meetings. The hall is rented from St. Clair Blue Lodge; own part of furniture. Work done during the year: M. M. M., M. E. M., R. A. Assets, \$230. Dues \$3 per year; Initiation, \$10. Liabilities none. Number of members good on books, 23.

It was my intention to visit this Chapter again before my term expired, but I did not receive any notice of their meetings.

WHITE OAK, NO. 104, Oakville.—I have visited this Chapter three times during the year. My first visit was on November 27th, when the Royal Arch degree was exemplified in a creditable manner. I visited them again on December 18, when a Chapter of Instruction was held, a report of which will be found in this report. Visited this Chapter again in June, 1895, at which I presided, accompanied by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Grand J., R. E. Comp. John Malloy, E. Comp. T. M. Davis and Comp. W. J. McAllister. The election of officers resulted as follows: E. Comp. Andrews, E. Comp. A. Hillmer. This Chapter is in a flourishing condition financially and otherwise, and if the enthusiasm

is continued during the coming year as has been shown during the past year, it should be one of the best Chapters in the district.

The good work of the Chapter is largely due to the careful and constant rehearsals which the Chapter has held under the direction of Ex. Comp. Farrah ever since the Chapter was instituted. I must congratulate the Chapter on its impressive and accurate work on the occasion of the District Chapter of Instruction. It elicited the highest praise on all sides, and take this opportunity to thank the Companions of White Oak Chapter for the very kind and enthusiastic manner in which they assisted me in every way possible to make the meeting a success.

Have held eight regular and two emergent meetings during the year. Officers attend regularly. Hall is rented from the Blue Lodge. Own their own paraphernalia. Insured for \$100. Number of members, 27. Increase this year, 4. Degrees conferred, M. M. M., M. E. M., R. A.. Liabilities nil. Assets, \$250. Outstanding dues, \$70. Initiation fee, \$10. Dues \$3 per year. Their hospitality is unbounded.

In conclusion I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Companions of the district for the honor they have conferred on me last July in electing me to the office of Grand Superintendent of the Hamilton District, and for the cordial and fraternal reception they have given me, and also those who accompanied me on my official visit.

WM. BIRRELL,
Grand Supt., Hamilton District.

HURON DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of
the Grand Chapter of Canada.*

I am pleased to report that the past year has been prosperous and harmonious in the Huron District. A net gain of 42 members has been added to its membership, and not a grievance or appeal has been made to me during the year. I visited every Chapter in the district and saw one or more degrees exemplified in each Chapter. I am pleased to report all in working order

with competent officers, loyal members, good halls, financially sound, and the degrees conferred in the prescribed form with uniformity.

In addition to the increase in membership another Chapter has been added to the district by the transfer of the Warrant of Saugeen Chapter, No. 50, from Walkerton to Mitchell. This was done by the Grand Z., and the Chapter opened at Mitchell on the 22nd November, 1894 with sixteen members, three of whom were then Companions, the other thirteen receiving the degrees in the Chapter at Mitchell.

The district now consists of eight Chapters, (only one district in the jurisdiction having more than that number) and consists of Tecumseh, No. 24, Stratford; Huron No. 30, Goderich; St. James No. 46, St. Mary's; Havelock, No. 63, Kincardine, The Malloch, No. 66, Seaforth; Lebanon, No. 84, Wingham; Exeter, No. 85, Exeter; and Saugeen, No. 50, Mitchell.

Every Chapter in the district has conferred the three degrees during the year.

The Grand Z. has by his visits to the Chapters in this district stirred the enthusiasm of the Companions, given them good advice and much useful and instructive information, and the district records its thanks for his zealous and useful efforts on behalf of Capitular Masonry in this part of the jurisdiction.

A successful Chapter of Instruction for the district was held on the 6th February last at Stratford. The Grand Z. honored it with his presence and lent his voice and counsel with a view to securing greater uniformity in the work. The Mark degree was exemplified by the officers and Companions of St. James Chapter No. 46 at 3 p. m. in an excellent manner. The M. E. M. degree was to have been exemplified by the officers and Companions of Havelock Chapter, No. 63, but at the last moment they were unable to be present and the degree was exemplified by Companions from the different Chapters present. In the evening the R. A. degree was conferred by Tecumseh, No. 24, after which the Committee of Grand Chapter appointed for that purpose at its last Convocation, presented a suitable and well

merited testimonial to the Past Grand Z., M. E. Comp. John E. Harding.

A number of Companions of Grand Chapter including Grand Scribe E. together with a large number of visiting Companions of the district and other districts were present. The proceedings being wound up with a banquet at the Albion Hotel in honor of the Grand Z. under the auspices of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, when a very profitable day was brought to a close by a most enjoyable banquet in which eloquence, art and music vied with the caterer to please the taste.

TECUMSEH, No. 24, still continues the leading Chapter in the District, with a membership of 83, an average attendance of 21. During the year it held 20 convocations, 10 regular, 10 emergent, advanced 18 candidates, passed 1, received 12, exalted 15, one Companion joined, one dimitted and one died, leaving a net increase for the year of 17 members. There are eleven members over one year in arrears for dues, three over two years, three over three years and two over four years. The cash is deposited in the Bank of Commerce to the credit of the Treasurer. Cash assets, \$147.53; Liabilities, \$54.00. The furniture belongs to the Hall Trust. The prospects of the Chapter are very bright.

HURON, No. 30, Goderich—This Chapter, the district and Grand Chapter have sustained a loss by the death of R. E. Comp. Judge I. F. Toms. He was present on the occasion of my visit and extended the right hand of fellowship to me, and little did we then think that it would be my sad duty to refer to his death in my report to Grand Chapter. Acting on my advice the Chapter has suspended 9 members for non-payment of dues. It has lost three by death, making a loss of 12 for the year. Added 6 members, making a net decrease of 6 for the year, and leaving a total membership of 44. Nine regular and one emergent meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 14 members. Financial standing fair and prospects fair. The furniture and paraphernalia are valued at \$250, insured for 200. The officers are capable and do their work fairly well.

ST. JAMES, No. 46, St. Marys—This Chapter was

mentioned annually for a number of years in all reports to Grand Chapter in reference to dormant Chapters. I am pleased to say that now it is no longer dormant, but much alive and doing good work under E. Comp. H. Fred Sharpe. I assisted at its resuscitation in June, 1894, since when it has done well. Its officers having mastered the ritual and conferred the degrees accurately. 10 Companions have been exalted since the last return to Grand Chapter, some of whom had been marked, 6 new Companions have been marked, received and exalted, and one Companion affiliated, leaving the present membership at 21. The furniture and paraphernalia are good. The Chapter has bright prospects.

HAVELOCK, No. 66, Kincardine—This Chapter marked, recieved and exalted 4 new Companions, lost 1 by dimit and one by death, thus making a gain by 2 members for the year and a total membership of 48. It is the best equipped Chapter in the district. Furniture, etc. insured. Financially good. Money paid to Treasurer and paid out in joint order of E. Z. and Scribe E. Degrees were conferred at 12 meetings in the year. The R. A. degree was well exemplified on the occasion of my visit, a visit that I recall with pleasant recollections. While R. E. Comp. De Witt Martyn takes an interest in Havelock, Grand Chapter need have no fear for its welfare. One omission marred a satisfactory inspection. The books of the Chapter had not been audited for the past year, and I feel it my duty to impress on the Companions the necessity of having an accurate audit made at least once a year. With this exception I was pleased with all I saw in connection with Havelock and think it has fair prospects.

THE MALLOCH No. 66. Seaforth—This Chapter for some years has had more or less difficulty to contend with. No sooner was one difficulty surmounted and a prospect of good times in view than something else would arise to check its progress. I was present at their last election of officers and saw the R. A. degree conferred and left the Chapter expecting a prosperous era had set in. At Easter, however, the E. Z. the Rev. J. H. Fairlie removed to Listowel, returning occasionally in order to confer degrees. He had his

work well in hand and conferred the degrees in good form. E. Comp. 2nd Principal Rev. J. W. Hodgins assures me that the Chapter will do fairly well and that in the autumn the good work will go on. The Chapter added 5 to its roll of members, lost 1 by dimit, 2 by suspension for non-payment of dues and 1 by death, leaving a net increase of 1 for the year and a total membership of 24. It had a surplus of 25 at the time of my visit. I have hope that Malloch will do well.

LEBANON, No. 84, Wingham.—This Chapter has lost two in the total of its membership of 26. Last year it was given at 28. The year's work has been light, consisting of marking one, receiving one, exalting two, and suspending three Companions for non-payment of dues. The officers and Companions are bright and capable but are in need of more work. I advised them to have practice meetings in the absence of regular work. The hall furniture good.

EXETER, No. 85, Exeter.—This Chapter has a total membership of 28, having added a net increase of five, one withdrawn and one affiliated. Seven meetings were held in the year; three members are in arrears for one year's dues, one for two years and one for three years. Cash on hand about \$100. The cash is paid over to the Treasurer on the night received by Comp. McLeod, the Scribe E., who is a careful officer. The Treasurer deposits it in the bank. The furniture is valued at \$80; insured. This Chapter is steadily progressing. Its prospects are good.

SAUGEEN, No. 50, Mitchell.—The warrant for this Chapter was transferred from Walkerton to Mitchell by the M. E. the Grand Z. The Chapter was opened in Mitchell on the 22nd November, 1894, with 16 members, 13 of them receiving the degrees in Mitchell and the other three being added to the roll as affiliated members; two new members have since received the three degrees, making a total of 18 members. The present Z., E. Comp. Elliott, is a competent officer. I was much pleased in the way he conferred the R. A. degree. He is fairly assisted. With time and practice under the present Z. the Chapter will prosper.

I granted two dispensations to attend divine service in R. A. clothing, one to Exeter Chapter, No. 85, and the other to Tecumseh, No. 24, both for 23rd June, the Sunday before St. John's day.

The prospects of the district for the future seem to be bright and auspicious, good material is coming in and there is more to follow.

In conclusion I have to express my pleasure at the cordial manner in which I have been received by the different Chapters and hope that Huron District will continue as prosperous and harmonious in the future as it has been in the past.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

F. W. GEARING,

Grand Superintendent Huron District.

Stratford, 4th July, A. L., 5895.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

I have the honor to submit my report as to the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Niagara District.

There were in the district at the time of my installation, seven Chapters : Mount Moriah, No. 19, St. Catharines ; McCallum, No. 29, Dunnville ; Niagara, No. 55, Niagara ; King Hiram, No. 57, Port Colborne ; Willson, No. 64, Welland ; Grimsby, No. 69, Grimsby ; and Mount Nebo, No. 76, Niagara Falls South. Of these I found that with the exception of King Hiram, No. 57, and Grimsby, No. 69, were holding Convocations regularly according to their by-laws.

KING HIRAM, NO. 57, Port Colborne.—This Chapter had been for a long time in a weak and inefficient state, and very soon after my term of office began, I was notified by the M. E. the Grand Z. that it had surrendered its charter to Grand Chapter.

GRIMSBY, NO. 69.—My correspondence with the E. Companion who seems to be in charge of the affairs of this Chapter has not been of a satisfactory nature. I have not received notice of any meeting at which I could witness work done by its own officers. I have

been informed that there has not been an election of officers for two or three years. that both the E. Z. and Scribe E. reside away from the village, and that Convocations are held only at long intervals.

NIAGARA, NO. 55, Niagara.—I visited this Chapter on the 17th January and installed the officers who had been elected at the regular Convocation in December. Although weak numerically it is in a sound financial condition having a substantial balance in hand. Its affairs are for the most part under the superintendence of R. E. Comp. Jno. M. Clement who is the present Scribe E. and who is zealous and untiring in his efforts on behalf, not only of his own Chapter, but of Capitular Masonry in general. The meetings of the Chapter have been regularly held, and work has been done in all the degrees during my year of office.

MOUNT NEBO, No. 76, Niagara Falls, South—I was present at a Convocation of this Chapter on the 8th March, 1895. There was a large attendance and an enthusiastic interest shown in the work in the affairs of the Chapter by the Companions present. This Chapter is in a good state financially, and has an active membership of more than fifty. A fair amount of work has been done in all the degrees during the past year. The Chapter is fortunate in having a very efficient Scribe E. in the person of E. Comp. Hyatt.

WILLSON, No. 64, Welland—I visited this Chapter on the 13 March and was cordially received by a large attendance of Companions. I had the pleasure of seeing the Royal Arch Degree worked by the officers in a thoroughly efficient manner, and was much gratified by the accuracy and precision of the work. This Chapter possesses an inestimable advantage in enrolling among its active members R. E. Comp. I. P. Willson whose name is bound up with the best traditions of Masonry in the Niagara district, and is a synonym for excellence of work and knowledge of the Mason's art. The membership is upwards of fifty, and is being constantly added to. The financial condition of the Chapter is sound. Convocations are held monthly, are well attended and work is being done in all the degrees.

MOUNT MORIAH, No. 19, St. Catharines.—This is my own Chapter, at most of the convocations of which I have been present during my term of office. Owing the unfortunate calamity which befel the Chapter on the 14th January last, in the loss by fire of the Masonic Temple in St. Catharines, and the consequent destruction of all its paraphernalia and furniture, it has labored under great disadvantages. Since the time of the fire the Companions have met in the lodge room of Union Lodge of Oddfellows, the use of which was kindly granted to them by that body. The Chapter has, of course, been seriously restricted and hampered in its degree work. I had the honor on the 30th day of April last to attend the M. E. the Grand Z. on his official visit to the Chapter, on which occasion the Mark degree was exemplified. It is expected that the rooms set apart for the use of the Chapter in the new Masonic Temple will be ready for occupation within a month, and that the Chapter's new home will not be excelled in beauty and convenience by that of any other on the roll of Grand Chapter. The membership is the largest in the district, and constantly increasing, and its financial condition is excellent. The officers are enthusiastic and thoroughly efficient.

MCCALLUM, No. 29, Dunnville.—I regret that it has not been my good fortune during my term of office, to visit this Chapter, which has acquired an enviable reputation throughout the whole jurisdiction of Grand Chapter for brilliant and effective work. I have been informed by well skilled Companions that the same beautiful and impressive rendering of the ritual which has distinguished the Chapter in the past is fully maintained, and that it is in a thoroughly active and useful condition.

Speaking generally I may say that there has not been reported to me any lack of harmony in any of the Chapters in the district, and I have not been called upon to decide any question of jurisprudence or investigate any matter of complaint.

I wish to refer to the too great leniency exhibited by all the Chapters I visited in the matter of dues. I am well aware of the difficulties attending on this ques-

tion, but I think I may safely say that experience has proved that continued clemency shown in this direction is, to say the least, injudicious, and must ultimately tend to impair the efficiency of a Chapter, if not to involve it in real disaster.

I have found throughout the district a general failure to comply with that part of the Constitution relating to marks and their registration. I would respectfully suggest that a communication from the Grand Scribe E. to First Principals and Scribes of Chapters calling their attention to the importance of this matter, would result in a better compliance with the Constitution in that respect.

As to the outlook for Capitular Masonry in the Niagara District I consider it bright and encouraging.

The visits of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. to all the Chapters of the District during the past year have undoubtedly resulted in great good to the cause, and have stimulated the various Chapters to greater zeal and to laudable rivalry in their efforts to excel, and I have no doubt that before the end of another year these good results will be still more marked and apparent.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

C. H. CONNOR,
Grand Supt. Niagara District.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor as Grand Superintendent of the Toronto District to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this District, which embraces the following Chapters, viz: St. Andrew's and St. John's, No. 4, King Solomon, No. 8, Doric, No. 60, York, No. 62, St. Paul's No. 65, Occident, No. 77, Orient, No. 79, and Antiquity, No. 91, all within the city of Toronto, except York and Doric, which are situated about three miles and twenty miles distant respectively.

It is with great pleasure I am able to state that every Chapter in the District is in good working

order, and that five out of the eight have increased their membership during the year. I am also pleased to state that perfect harmony prevails throughout the district, no complaint of any kind being brought before me requiring my interference.

My first official act was the appointment of E. Comp. Wm. Anderson, Past First Principal of King Solomon Chapter, as District Secretary, and I must here bear testimony to the very efficient services he has rendered me during the year just closed.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Of the eight Chapters comprising the district I have paid 29 official visits, as follows: St. Andrew's and St. John, 4; St. Paul's 4; King Solomon, 5; York, 4; Occident, 5; Orient, 3, and Antiquity, 4.

On October 19th, 1894, I had the pleasure of visiting ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. JOHN'S and witnessing the working of the Mark degree by E. Comp. H. J. Hamilton. On January 18th, 1895, I again paid a visit when the installation of officers was most creditably performed by E. Comp. Thomas Hills. On March 15th I again visited when the R. A. was exemplified by E. Comp. George Moir. My fourth and last visit was paid on May 17th, 1895, but no work was done, the candidate not being present.

The officers are painstaking and are evidently anxious to perform the work well, but I would advise a thorough drill by Principals and officers both as to chair and floor work so that perfection can be reached by this the oldest Chapter in the district. This Chapter meets in Toronto Street Hall. The books and finances, &c., are in good condition.

KING SOLOMON, No. 8, being my mother Chapter, I visited many times, but on five occasions I made official ones, viz: October 3rd, 1894, January 4th and 9th, 1895, April 5th and May 3rd. The October meeting was a large and very enthusiastic one, the officers and members of St. Paul's, No. 65, being present on a fraternal visit. The 1st Principal, E. Comp. N. T. Lyon, requested E. Comp. Aubrey White to exemplify the Royal Arch degree, to which he kindly

consented. I need hardly say the work was well done as this Chapter has a provincial reputation. In the proper order I will again refer to it. January 4th was a gala evening for this Chapter. The officers and members of Dunnville and Welland Chapters came on a fraternal visit, and were prepared to exemplify to the Companions of the city the M. M. and R. Arch, and it was a great success. Their work in the Mark Master and Royal Arch was performed in a most perfect manner and a credit to all taking part. The Grand Z., M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, and officers of Grand Chapter were present and were highly pleased by the creditable display of the visiting Companions.

The Mark Master, Most Excellent and Royal Arch were conferred by E. Comps. Dunning, Oliver and Woodstock (the 1st Principal) at the meeting January 9th, and all the officers were well up in their work. April 5th and May 3rd the degrees of M. M. and Most Excellent were conferred by E. Comps. Dunning, Lovell and Oliver, with credit to the Chapter. The books and finances are in good shape. The Chapter meets in Toronto Street.

DORIC No. 60, Newmarket.—I was unable owing to my business engagements, to visit this Chapter, but from information received from E. Comp. Lee, Past First Principal, I am to led believe it is working well and its prospects good for the future. I am also informed that the books and finances are in good condition.

ST. PAUL'S, No. 65, Toronto, still keeps up its reputation as being the best worked Chapter in the district. On October the 10th I visited this Chapter, accompanied by about fifty members of King Solomon Chapter. This being a return friendly visit and for the purpose of exemplifying the Mark Master's degree. The officers were the staff of King Solomon's Chapter, and it was highly creditable to them, and was a most enjoyable evening for all. The M. E. Grand Z. J. R. Robertson was present.

I again visited this Chapter on March 13th, April 10th and May 8th. On each occasion the Royal Arch was worked. The officers were R. C. Donald, Z., and

Second and Third Principals and the usual floor officers. The work was very good.

The Chapter is deserving of the highest commendation for the manner in which the work is performed. Officers vie with officers as to which can do their work in the most perfect manner and their success is patent to every visitor. They have a rehearsal every month, and the work is gone over in a most painstaking manner. This custom of regular rehearsals I would strongly recommend to all Chapters in the district, as its practice will enable them to thoroughly and accurately confer the degrees at their regular convocations.

The books and finances are in a perfectly satisfactory condition.

YORK, No. 62, Eglinton.—I visited this Chapter four times. On the first occasion there was no work, it being the election of officers, and from the staff chosen that evening, I have every hope of a successful year. My second visit was on February 7th, and I had the pleasure of seeing the work of the Mark Master's degree conferred by E. Comp. Duncan, Z., and it was very creditably performed. On March 2nd I again visited it but no work was done. My last visit was on May 2nd. E. Comp. Duncan performed the work of the Royal Arch degree. It was fairly well done, but there is ample room for improvement in both the chair and floor work. I would earnestly recommend frequent and diligent rehearsals. This Chapter is progressing well and the books are properly kept.

OCCIDENT, No. 77, Bathurst street, Toronto.—I paid five official visits to this Chapter, the first of which was November 12th, when the Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees were conferred by E. Comp. Riddell and the officers of the Chapter. The work was well done. I again visited on January 14th, but there was no candidate present for degree work, and on Feb. 11th, March 11th, and May 13th, the degrees on those nights were the Mark Master's and Most Excellent. The work was done by E. Comp. Riddell and officers of the Chapter, and it was done very well.

I installed the officers of the Chapter on Jan. 14th, and on Feb. 11th a presentation was made to the Z., E.

Comp. Parsons. The books of this Chapter are in good form and finances fair.

ORIENT, No. 79—I paid three official visits to this Chapter, but no work was done, and I am unable to report on the manner in which the work is performed, but am informed that it is fair. Books and finances are in fair shape and the membership increasing.

ANTIQUITY, No. 91—My first visit to this Chapter was on October 15th, 1894, when the Royal Arch was exemplified by R. E. Comp. Wm. Walker and officers of the Chapter. The work was first class in every respect. On Jan. 21st, 1895 I again visited but no work was done. My 3rd and 4th visits were on March 18th and May 20th when the M. M. and Most Excellent degrees were conferred by E. Comp. Allan and the officers of the Chapter. The work was well done. I am particularly pleased with the way the books of this Chapter are kept. They are a credit to the Scribe E. The music of this Chapter is very good and should be copied by the other Chapters. Finances good and Chapter progressing.

Before closing I desire to express my gratitude to the Grand Z. and the Grand Scribe E. for the courteous manner in which I have been treated by them, and for their kind assistance on many occasions during my term of office. Without their assistance I would have been at a loss many times but they always came to my relief. I am also indebted to R. E. Comp. Alex. Patterson and Benj. Allan and V. E. Comp. V. Riddle, and the officers and Companions of the various Chapters throughout the district for the very hearty manner in which I have been received on my official visits. I shall ever remember their kindness to me with the utmost appreciation, and in taking leave on this the expiration of my official duties I wish one and all a long lived prosperity, and an abundant entrance into the Grand Chapter above.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

ROBERT OLIVER,
Grand Supt. Toronto District,

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION TO THE GRAND SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1894-5.

NAME OF CHAPTER.	MEETINGS			Average attendance of Members.	Average attendance of Visitors.	Dues per year.	No. of Members as per last returns	No. Petitions accepted.	No. Candidates init'd.	No. joined from other Chapters.	Withdrawn.	Suspended.	Died.	Restored.	Present No. on roll.	Liabilities.	Assets.	Value of Property.	Insurance.	No. over 12 months in arrears.	Prospects as reported to Grand Superintendents.
	Regular	Emergent.	Total.																		
4 St. Andrew & St. John	10	1	11	27	9	3 00	108	17	7		4		4	1	108	25 00	1273 15	1300 00	950 00	39	Very encouraging.
8 King Solomon	11	4	15	33	10	3 00	161	33	18	1	3	7	4		166		650 00	200 00	200 00	9	Very good.
60 Doric.....	10	0	10	10	1	3 00	41	10	5			7			39	31 90	60 00	No Returns		6	Fair.
62 York.....	9	1	10	11	2	3 00	43	4	2	1					46	110 35	374 65	175 00	150 00	16	Fair.
65 St Paul's.....	10	3	13	22	11	4 80	92	11	5	2	2		1		96		1000 00	250 00	250 00	10	Excellent.
77 Occident.....	11	1	12	20	8	3 00	60	14	5				2	1	64		250 00	150 00	150 00	20	Very good.
79 Orient	12	3	15	18	4	3 00	67	23	16	2	2		2		83	No	Returns	given	en....	.....	Very Fair.
91 Antiquity.....	11	6	17	18	4	3 00	65	25	17		7	5		2	72	100 00	395 80	275 00	300 00	4	Very good.
TOTALS	84	19	103	20	6		637	137	75		16	10	13		454					104	

Net increase in membership for year ending 31st May, 1895 is 37.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z, Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

I have the honor to submit my annual report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Georgian District which embraces seven Chapters.

There has been a good increase of membership in the Chapters in this district excepting two.

I proposed when elected to visit every Chapter in the district, but owing to business engagements was not able to do so during the winter months, and with some Chapters could not get a meeting when convenient for me.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

GRAND RIVER, No. 70, Bracebridge.—I visited this Chapter on the 21st March. I witnessed the opening and closing of the Chapter which was well done by E. Comp. Isaac Huber, Z., and his officers, with one or two exceptions, among the subordinates. The Mark Master degree was conferred in a very creditable manner. The books are well kept, and the general finances of Chapter are in good shape ; equipments good.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 103, North Bay.—I did not visit this Chapter. I was in their town on a regular night but owing to the election for a county town could not get a meeting, but from information received this Chapter is doing fairly well. Members on roll, 39 ; increase of 4 over last year. Meetings held, 10 ; average attendance, 10 ; assets, \$650.00 ; liabilities, \$20.00 ; insurance, \$200.00. Prospects of Chapter good.

MCPHERSON, No. 86, Meaford—I have received no notice of meetings, and, like my predecessor, when I tried to get a meeting got word not to come, cannot get a quorum. I then arranged with the Grand Z. to visit with him. We found 7 Companions to meet us, and with our assistance the Chapter was opened. The Grand Z. then gave them a lecture on Capitular Masonry and the standing of McPherson Chapter, and told them if there was not an improvement in six months their warrant would be withdrawn. I have not received any

notices of meetings since, so I must leave this Chapter for my successor to deal with.

SIGNET, No. 34, Barrie—This is the banner Chapter of the district. It is true that they have advantages over other Chapters in an abundance of good material from which they can draw for additions and strength to their ranks. I did not officially visit them, but having been with the Companions on so many occasions in Barrie I did not feel that an official visit was necessary. I know they have added largely to their number. I wrote to the S. E. for particulars but he said the Grand S. E. did not send any forms to fill up, and if I had any to send he would then give me the information I wanted. I did not get any forms from the Grand S. E. so could not get any particulars as to Signet Chapter.

SPRY, No. 92, Alliston—The Grand Z. and myself officially visited this Chapter on April 26. Five Companions received us, but could not open for want of a quorum, The Grand Z. gave us a discription of his trip to Bermuda and Capitular Masonry in that country. The Companions felt there was no use in their trying to keep the honored name of Spry Chapter alive in Alliston so they agreed to surrender their warrant, but I learn from the Grand S. E. they have not done so yet. I would suggest that it be removed from the list.

MANITOU, No. 27, Collingwood—This is my own Chapter. On February 1st I had the pleasure of installing an efficient set of officers. On May 3rd we had the pleasure of having the Grand Z. with us. The meeting was of great interest. The Grand Z. gave us some timely and pleasant advice and his visit was one of profit and interest to the Companions. The Z. is able to do the work of all the degrees. Members on the roll, 32 ; increase during the year, 4 ; meetings held, 13 ; average attendance, 12. The financial condition is good ; assets, \$334.00, no debts outstanding. The books of the Treasurer and Scribe E. are well bept.

GEORGIAN, No. 56, Owen Sound—I did not visit this Chapter. Arranged to do so on the 14th June but a number of their Companions came to Collingwood on that day to the trial trip of the new steamer "Majestic," and as their Scribe E. said Collingwood was responsible

for no quorum, I wrote him for particulars but have not received any so cannot give particulars of this Chapter.

In conclusion I would express my thanks to the officers and Companions of the district for the kindness they have extended to me during my term of office in my visits among them whether officially or otherwise.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

Collingwood, July 5th, 1895.

W. T. TONER,

Grand Supt. Georgian District.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

I beg to submit herewith my report of Capitular Masonry in Ontario District for the past year, and I can assure you that it affords me much pleasure to state that I feel quite confident that this district will compare favorably with any in your jurisdiction for enthusiasm, consequent prosperity and perfection in work. As you will see by the tabulated statement already sent you there has been a very marked increase in the numbers on the roll of membership in most of the Chapters and I have no hesitation in saying the material brought up will prove a credit to the workmen.

In submitting my report as Grand Superintendent I wish to express my very sincere thanks to the Companions who elected, at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter to do me the honor of entrusting to my special care and supervision the welfare of this district, and I feel deeply indebted to the Scribes Ezra of the various Chapters in the district for the care and efficiency in their duties, and their readiness in supplying me at all times with any and all information required in addition to the regular notices of the meetings held and work on hand. I am also under obligation to the Companions of the district who have shown a disposition to lend a helping hand in my duties wherever and whenever required, some of whom I specially mention in my Chapter visits. Last but not least I desire to acknowledge the stimulus and assistance afforded by the Most

Excellent the Grand Z., J. Ross Robertson, who with his untiring energy and ability, personally and through the Grand Scribe E., M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent, aided so materially in the duties of my office.

PENTALPHA, No. 28, Oshawa.—I made my first official visit to this Chapter December 4th, 1894, accompanied by E. Comp. Dr. Might, of Victoria Chapter, No. 37. From previous reports I was prepared to find this Chapter in a most unsatisfactory condition, and as the notices called for the conferring of the Mark Master on four candidates and the Most Excellent Master degree on five I was somewhat anxious to know how they were going to do the work, but they soon put my mind to rest in this particular by informing me I would have to take the chair and do the work myself. The warm reception by the genial Past Z., R. E. Comp. McCaw, the courteous Z., E. Comp, Dr. Ray, E. Comp. A. E. Henry, Comp. L. K. Murton, Scribe E., and other Companions, and the cool deliberation with which they suggested that they could see no use of a Grand Superintendent unless he was there to do the work, would have surprised me had I not been aware of the inactivity which had existed for years in this Chapter. Accordingly with the assistance of E. Comp. Dr. Might and some of the Companions of the Chapter whom I could see with a little practice would soon acquire the work, I accepted the situation, marking 4 and conferring the M. E. M. degree on 5, all of which I considered a valuable acquisition to the Chapter roll.

My next visit was December 14th, 1894, at an emergent meeting summoned to receive the Grand Z., on which occasion I was obliged to again take the chair and confer the R. A. degree on five, assisted by E. Comp. Hargraft, of St. John's Chapter, Cobourg, and a number of Companions of Keystone Chapter, Whitby, who kindly came down on short notice and rendered very material assistance. The severe criticism of the Grand Z. on the condition of Pentalpha Chapter and some of the Companions who filled the subordinate offices rendered it almost hazardous for any one to visit there again in an official capacity, and for a time I feared the Companions were not inclined to accept the remarks

in the spirit in which I knew the kindly admonitions were intended. However, with the election and installation of new officers with E. Comp. A. E. Henry, Z., a new era seems to have dawned on Pentalpha, and I am assured by E. Comp. Dr. Ray that the officers have acquired the work in all the degrees.

. KEYSTONE, No. 35, Whitby—This is the only Chapter in the district that I have not visited officially, and I feel it is a compliment due them to say it did not require an official visit, as I was fully satisfied with the exemplification of the work at Oshawa by the officers of Keystone Chapter that any candidate taking the degrees in Whitby will receive them in due and proper form and though the report from there does not state that the Z. E. Comp. Gale can work all of the three degrees, I know what he does will be done in the most exemplary manner, and that he has the ever ready and willing assistance of E. Comp. Henderson and other Past Z's always at hand and it is rare to find so many builders ready to assume any place in which they may be allotted as I found came from Whitby when needed at Oshawa. As will be seen by the tabulated statement but six regular meetings and two emergents have been held, and only one Mark and one M. E. M. degree conferred in Keystone during the year. At the time I had expected to make my official visit I was notified that the Chapter rooms were undergoing alterations rendering it impossible to have the meeting. They look for a most prosperous term next year in the addition to their membership roll.

CORINTHIAN, No. 36, Peterboro.—This Chapter, I think may fairly be called the banner Chapter of the district, and to the marked enthusiasm, care and proficiency of the officers must be attributed much of the success which it will be seen by the tabulated statement has been attained during the year and the large increase in membership. My first visit was made Dec. 10th, 1894, at an emergent Convocation summoned to receive the Grand Z., on which occasion E. Comp. David Spence, assisted by his staff of officers worked the entire three degrees in a most exemplary manner. The work was so well rendered that I do not feel like making special

mention of any particular officer, but I was particularly pleased with the impressive work of Comp. W. H. Walkey as Principal Sojourner. Doubtless the officers find much to encourage them in the goodly attendance and manifest interest of the Companions. My second and official visit to this Chapter was at their regular Convocation, May 21st, 1895, and the hearty welcome tendered me as the representative of Grand Chapter will not soon be forgotten. The installation of the new officers took place at this Convocation and was performed by E. Comp. Wood, assisted by R. E. Comp. Morrow, in a most creditable manner. I cannot speak too highly of the neat and regular form in which I found the books of the Chapter, and in addition to the ordinary books I found a very neat and compact record book had been added by the direction of the E. Z. from which one could see at a glance all important matters relating to the work of the Chapter.

VICTORIA, No. 37, Port Hope.—It was in this Chapter I received my degrees and naturally I have always taken a great interest in its welfare. I attended 12 of the 13 Convocations held during the year and many of the weekly practices. To these practice meetings I think may fairly be attributed much of the success of the Chapter and the excellent manner in which the degrees are conferred. Of course I feel a delicacy about lauding too highly the work of my own Chapter, but when I compare the work to-day with that done when some 7 others with myself were hustled through all the degrees in an afternoon and evening, I feel like exercising much patience, and hope in a brighter future for any weak Chapter having only a nominal existence. October 23rd, 1894, when we were favored with an official visit from the Grand Z., through the unavoidable absence of our E. Z., Thomas Long, I occupied the chair, which with the efficient staff of officers in the subordinate chairs is an easy task in Victoria Chapter. The working of the R. A. degree on that occasion was favorably commented upon in the interesting and instructive address of the M. E. the Grand Z., whose visit was highly appreciated by the Chapter. My occasional occupancy of the various chairs during the year was I

think more through a desire on the part of the Companions to keep me in practice than any real necessity. On January 11th, 1894, I installed the new officers assisted by E. Comp. Dr. Might, and the choice of E. Comp. Mulholland, as Z., and other officers who have proved themselves worthy of advancement has already shown its beneficeffect. It will be seen by the statistical returns that the Chapter continues to prosper and the fine work done by the officers is deserving of the highest commendation. On my official visit in January 3rd, 1895 I had the honor of the company of the Grand Z. and with him shared the hearty and cordial reception tendered us. I assisted the Grand Z in the installation of the new officers and witnessed the working of the R. A. degree, which was fairly well done. I predict a very bright future for this Chapter.

ST. JOHN'S, No. 48, Cobourg.—The progress of this Chapter is steady, with an efficient set of officers. My first visit was December 7th, 1894, when the new officers were installed by E. Comp. A. Hargraft, assisted by R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig. On the occasion of my second and official visit, December 21st, 1894, I had the pleasure together with E. Comp. Dr. Might, E. Comp. Thos. Long and Comp. Prof Hitchings, of accompanying the Grand Z. Our courteous and cordial reception on that occasion was only in keeping with that for which St. John's Chapter is so justly noted. The work of the R. A. degree was fairly well done though not quite up to the high reputation this Chapter has always borne, however. This was accounted for by the recent change which had taken place in the occupancy of the chairs. I was very much impressed with the creditable work of E. Comp. Hewson in the chair of 3rd Principal.

MIDLAND, No. 94, Lindsay—Of all the Chapters in the district this has appeared the most unpromising and with the exception of an ex-Scribe E. I began to think existed only in name. I made innumerable efforts to get the promise of a meeting, but from time to time was put off in the most plausible manner. The Scribe E. Comp. G. S. Patrick sent regular notices of Convocations calling for work to be done, but the same candidate's name appeared on successive summonses. I naturally

concluded no work was being done and I had on two occasions to call attention to the lapse of time between balloting and initiation. The ever ready Scribe E. immediately informed me the ballot in such cases had been passed again and that everything was being done regularly. I could not however get the promise of a meeting with enough members to open the Chapter, and with my recollection of the report of the Grand Z. of his attempt to hold a Convocation there, coupled with the reports of some of the Past Grand Superintendents of the receptions they had met with rather discouraged me. However, I determined something must be done before my term of office expired and I summoned an emergent meeting for July 4th. On my arrival at the Chapter rooms I detected an atmosphere which I immediately conceived to savor of a feeling of resentment caused by the severe remarks I knew had been uttered by the M. E. the Grand Z. on the occasion of his visit there. However, it took but a short time to dispel that feeling and to impress upon the Companions I was not there to admonish, but to assist in getting Midland Chapter in better working order. The E. Z. informed me he did not feel he could do justice in working the R. A. degree and R. E. Comp. B. Dingle consented to take the chair, conferring the degree in a creditable manner considering he had been called upon without any preparation, and the subordinate officers having their work very imperfectly with the exception of the Principal Sojourner who was evidently well posted and will in due time do credit as an E. Z. Notwithstanding the difficulty I experienced in getting a meeting it will be seen by statistical report that the Chapter has added 8 to its roll of membership during the year and of a class that will reflect credit on the Order. The cordial treatment extended to me by the Companions, aside from the first reception as a representative of Grand Chapter leaves pleasing recollections of my visit there, and I think I may safely predict a bright future for Midland Chapter. The neat and regular form of the books kept by Scribe E. deserves the highest praise.

WARKWORTH, NO. 110, Warkworth.—I experienced some difficulty in getting an appointment for an official

visit and almost feared this new Chapter was an unnecessary creation, but to my surprise and gratification on the evening of my official visit, June 12th, 1894, on which occasion I was accompanied by E. Comp. A. Hargraft, of St. John's Chapter, Cobourg, and E. Comp. Dr. Might, of Victoria Chapter, Port Hope, I found one of the best Chapters in the district, and notwithstanding the oppressively warm weather the Companions were present almost to a man and the hearty reception that greeted us will ever remain in my memory as one of the most pleasant visits. The performance of the work by the officers in all three degrees, which were conferred that evening, was certainly beyond anything I could have expected in so young a Chapter, in fact it would be a credit to any Chapter. The appointments of the Chapter are exceptionally good, and the strictest care was evident in the matter of being properly clothed. The E. Z., Comp. H. Humphries, is an enthusiastic worker and has the best of support in an efficient staff of officers and a class of Companions the Craft may well be proud of. I have no hesitation in saying the success of Warkworth Chapter is fully assured.

In concluding my report of Ontario District I beg to again thank all the Companions who have so kindly made my term of office light and pleasant by their many courtesies and ever ready assistance in my duties.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

J. WALKER QUINLAN,

Grand Superintendent Ontario District.

Port Hope, July 8th, 1895.

SUMMARY SHOWING STANDING AND WORK OF ONTARIO DISTRICT No. 10, MAY 31, 1894 TO MAY 31, 1895.

Place of Meeting.	No. of Chapter.	Name of Chapter.	Member- ship.		Degrees Conferred.			Affiliations.		Restorations.	Resignations.	Suspensions, N. P. D.	Suspensions, other causes.	Deceased.	Meetings Held.			Average Attendance.	Members 12 mos. in arr.	Total Arrearages.	Date of last Grand Chapter Returns.	Financial Standing.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can E. Z. work all degrees?	Insurance.
			No. of Members.	In. during year.	D. during year.	M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A.	Regular.						Emergent.	Total.									
Oshawa . .	28	Pentalpha .	38..7..0			7.. 7.. 7		7	2		0	0	0	1	7.. 1.. 8		15	0	0	0	May 31 '93	Good	Encour'g	Yes.	\$200
Whitby....	35	Keystone..	39..1..0			1.. 1.. 1		1	0	0	0	0	1	6.. 2.. 8		10	0	0	0	June '94	Good	Good	No.	200	
Peterboro .	36	Corinthian.	68..11..1			11..11..11		11	1	1	0	0	0	0	10.. 8.. 18		20	7	\$31.30	May 31 '94	Good	Excellent	Yes.	600	
Port Hope.	37	Victoria ...	38..7..1			7.. 7.. 7		7	0	0	1	2	0	1	11.. 2.. 13		16	13	\$68.90	May '95	A 1	Brilliant	Yes.	300	
Colborne ..	45	Excelsior..	52..8..0			8.. 8.. 12		12	4	0	0	0	0	0	11.. 4.. 15		20	0	0	0	May 31 '94	Good	Good	Yes.	200
Cobourg ...	48	St. John. ...	30..4..0			4.. 2.. 2		2	0	0	0	4	0	0	13.. 2.. 15		13	0	0	0	June 5, '95	Good	Good	Yes.	400
Lindsay ...	94	Midland ...	32..8..1			8.. 5.. 5		5	0	1	0	0	0	0	11.. 1.. 12		10	7	\$62.00		Good	Fair	No.	150	
Warkworth	110	Warkworth	24..9..0			9.. 9.. 9		9	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.. 4.. 14		12	0	0	0	June 4 '94	Good	Bright	Yes.	....

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

J. WALKER QUINLAN,
Grand Supt. Ontario District.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

In accordance with the requirements of our Constitution, I beg to submit my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Prince Edward District No. 11. It affords me great pleasure to report, not only an increase in membership during the year but also the number of Chapters comprising the district. The following Chapters were honored with a visit by the M. E. the Grand Z.: Prince Edward, No. 31, Picton, Jan. 8, 1895; Moira, No. 7, Belleville, Jan. 9; Mount Sinai, No. 44, Napanee, Jan. 10. I visited four of the Chapters in the district and departed from the usual custom of announcing the visit. The motive prompting this action was that I might learn how business was transacted as well as to judge of the proficiency of the Companions in the work of the degrees and the success attending the exemplification of the same. In three of the Chapters it was my pleasure to see work done. In the fourth the Convocation was held and the ordinary routine of business gone through.

MOIRA, No. 7, Belleville—I visited this Chapter on Tuesday, May 7th and saw the work of opening the Council and Chapter correctly done. The attendance was small. There was no work, but as the present officers were among the staff that took part in the work at the Chapter of Instruction held by my predecessor, R. E. Comp. Jas. Aylesworth at Picton on the 6th June, 1894, and from his report and my own knowledge, I am led to state that this Chapter can do the work as nearly perfect as possible.

ST. MARK'S NO. 26, Trenton—On Wednesday, June 5th, accompanied by E. Comp. C. C. Spencer, I paid this Chapter my official visit. The opening of the Council and Chapter was done in a creditable manner. The attendance was small, the side benches being occupied by few Companions. I saw the Royal Arch degree conferred by E. Comp. D. Walker, Jr., assisted by other E. Companions of the Chapter in a satisfactory manner, but as many of the subordinate officers were

absent I had no opportunity of judging their capabilities. The books of the Chapter are well kept.

PRINCE EDWARD, No. 31, Picton—I have attended a number of meetings of this my mother Chapter during the year. My first official visit was on the 17th Dec., 1894, in compliance with an invitation to install the officers. I refused to install the First Principal elect as the Examining Board was unable to report satisfactorily. He was afterwards installed under dispensation. I again visited this Chapter officially at the regular Convocation in May. The work of opening the Council and Chapter was fairly well done. The attendance was large as is usually the case. The Royal Arch degree was conferred, and having heard the words of praise tendered the First Principal and staff by the Grand Z. upon his visit to us in January, I think I may say that the work of Capitular Masonry loses none of its grandeur or impressiveness in its exemplification by Prince Edward No. 31. The books of the Chapter are models of neatness and are correct in every detail.

MOUNT SINAI, No. 44, Napanee.—I visited this Chapter on Wednesday, May 16th, but was surprised to find no quorum present. I am unable to offer any information as to the working of the Chapter. I learned from the First Principal who was present that the Mark degree was conferred when they were visited by the Grand Z.

The most important event in Capitular Masonry in this district occurred on the 10th December, 1894, when the charter of Keystone Chapter, No. 70, St. Thomas, was transferred to Stirling, on the application of a number of candidates to have a Chapter opened there. In the absence of the Grand Z. the Grand Scribe E. exemplified the work and was assisted by R. E. Comp. A. McGinnis, E. Comp. Henry Pringle and other Companions of Moira Chapter, Belleville; also E. Comp. C. C. Spencer, of Picton.

On Wednesday, May the 7th, I again paid a visit to Keystone Chapter, No. 70. Having learned through the summons that considerable work was to be done, I was all the more anxious to be present at this Convocation. The Mark degree was conferred by E. Comp. John Shaw, Z. of the Chapter. The work was well

done, all the officers showing most commendable proficiency. It was my pleasure to receive a number of brethren as M. E. M's. who were afterwards exalted by E. Comp. Henry Pringle, assisted by the Principals and officers of the Chapter. The Principals rendered their parts most creditably, while the Principal Sojourner was the recipient of the highest praise of those present for the skill and proficiency displayed by him in his first office in Royal Arch Masonry. This Chapter has been most fortunate I think in securing as Scribe E. Comp. John S. Carstairs, whom I judge to be a thorough and efficient officer. His books are second to none in the district and are characterized by their neatness.

In answer to enquiries as to the observance of that part of clause 54 of the constitution which requires the selection of a "mark" by every Mark Master Mason within six months from the date of taking the degree, I find that a selection has been made by a very small percentage of the brethren in this district. An inventory of property is kept by four Chapters and the fifth promises that it will be. The fee for exaltation and subordinate degrees is \$10 in all the Chapters except Moira, which is \$20.

Accompanying this report is a table showing work done in Prince Edward District, No. 11, from May 1st, 1894, to May 31st, 1895, as well as other information.

In conclusion I have to thank the Companions of my district for the many kind attentions and fraternal courtesies extended to me during my official connection with the district, and for my successor I would bespeak the same reception and hope he will be enabled to devote more time than I have to the furtherance of the growth of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

E. S. MORDEN,
Grand Supt., Prince Edward District.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 11, 1894-1895.

No.	CHAPTER.	PLACE.	Meet-ings Held.			Membership.	Average Attendance.	Dues per Year.	ARREARS OF DUES.				Total Dues Outstanding.	DEGREES CONFERRED.			VALUE OF FURNITURE.	
			Regular	Emergency	Total				1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.		5 yrs.	M. M. M.	M. E. M.		R. A.
7	Moira	Belleville.	12	0	12	111	24	\$2.00	21	9	12	5	0	\$260.00	11	11	11	\$900.00
26	St. Marks	Trenton..	12	2	14	37	11	2.00	5	4	2	1	0	54.67	8	8	6	50.00
31	Pr. Edward....	Pictou...	12	5	17	92	27	1.20	2	3	0	1	4	64.80	17	17	17	150 00
44	Mount Sinai....	Napanee.	9	0	9	54	13	1.50	3	1	3	5	7		4	4	4	500 00
70	Keystone.....	Stirling..	6	0	6	35	18	3.00	0	0	0	0	0		35	35	35	119 75

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Central District, having been honored with the responsible position of Grand Superintendent. I entered upon the work with a full knowledge that it involved both time and determination to fulfill the duties of the office, having in mind that I would be officiating under one of the most indefatigable Grand Z's.

I have devoted some time and attention to the incumbency, and if I have rendered my service to the district and Capitular Masonry with acceptance, I will be amply repaid.

Upon assuming the duties of my office I issued a printed circular to each Chapter, drawing their attention to amendments made to the Constitution and asking a careful compliance with Sections 74, 80, 91, 93 and 101, and a request that the officers would perfect themselves in the work, together with a reminder that the Grand Z. would be making official visits to each Chapter during the year and if possible I would accompany him.

On receipt of printed circulars from Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Z's projected visits, I issued a separate printed circular containing only those visits the Grand Z. would make in Central District and forwarded two to each Chapter, giving each one ample time to make all necessary arrangements for a large attendance of all the Companions, presenting good work, and giving the M. E. Z. a grand reception.

Central District comprising twelve Chapters scattered over a large area containing one-third more Chapters than any other district under Grand Chapter, required a great deal of time to make even one visit to each. However, I visited each once, and three twice; Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, No. 1, my mother Chapter, three times, making a total of eighteen official visits; installed the officers of four, and assisted the Grand Z. to install the officers of another; accompanied Grand Z. on his official visits to nine, three of which were Chapters of Instruction.

The Grand Z visited eleven of the twelve Chapters in my district, five of which held Chapters of Instruction. At each he imparted a great deal of useful information, and gave an interesting address on the origin, progress and standing of Capitular Masonry up to the present time, all of which was greatly appreciated by the Companions. These visits were most enjoyable; the reception accorded to the Grand Z. and myself was in every instance most cordial, manifesting a desire to do honor to each office.

It is very gratifying to note that I have not had one unpleasant duty to perform during the year. Not a grievance has reached me, not an investigation called for, not even a ruling required, showing that old and new officers are well up in their work and perfect harmony prevails throughout the district.

During the year I have recommended the granting of four dispensations and forwarded the cash to Grand Scribe E., who issued them, viz.: Sussex, No. 59, to install officers at an emergent Convocation; Maitland, No. 68, to install the H., he not having served as J.; Carleton, No. 16, to install the officers at the next regular Convocation following the one they should have been installed at; St. John's, No. 112, to appear in public as Royal Arch Masons for the purpose of attending divine service and to decorate the graves of deceased Companions.

It gives me pleasure to point out that there is a marked progress throughout the district. Some Chapters have been more prosperous than others, indifference giving way to eagerness, and ability is displayed in every Chapter. Occasionally it may be observed that minor officers are negligent and irregular in attendance; when this is the case the work must necessarily suffer. Nothing is more calculated to give encouragement to Principals who are faithful workers than to see every subordinate officer in his place at the proper hour, and become posted in the work, and a fair attendance of Companions on the floor, all taking an interest in the work, each doing his share to make the meeting instructive so that all will derive pleasure and profit by their association.

All the Principals I had examined or had opportunity to listen to I have found to be energetic, careful, capable and efficient officers. Of course there are some First Principals who by close application make themselves more perfect than others in Chapter work, although it is not my wish to particularize, but as an "object lesson" it is only right to mention those whom I have heard exemplifying degrees, showing that they have been painstaking in perfecting themselves in ritualistic work, viz., E. Comps. Thompson, of Frontenac, Luke, of Carleton, Graham, of Grenville, Menish, of Sussex, Hanes, of Covenant, McIntosh, of Maple, Chapman, of Maitland, and Fell, of St. John's, work fairly well. McIntosh deserves special mention for the clear and distinct manner in which he renders his work, and makes it impressive, having heard him on two occasions giving nearly all the degrees E. Comp. Kennedy, H. of St. John's Chapter, deserves special mention for the time and attention he devotes to his Chapter, besides being one of the brightest Royal Arch Masons in the district.

The Scribe E's of the district are remarkably painstaking officers. They perform their work with promptness, and the Principal Sojourners are a splendid lot of officers; their equals could hardly be found elsewhere. Maple P. S. also deserves special mention in performing; his clear Scottish accent sounds so pleasing.

During my visit to each Chapter I made a note of the presence of those veterans, the Past Principals who were ever ready to lend a helping hand to steer and guide their Chapter through difficulties and give assistance in whatever capacity their services might be required.

I have been greatly pleased to see and to meet so many ministers of different denominations who preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, active Companions in the Chapters, some of them officiating as officers. The presence of clergymen in our ranks is a clear indication of what our teaching and principles are based upon.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC AND CATARAQUI No. 1, Kingston—Meet in Masonic Hall on the third Wednesday in each month. The Grand Z. was pleased to order

this Chapter to hold a Chapter of Instruction on Jan. 1895. Invitations were issued and sent to all the Chapters in the district, together with the adjacent Chapters. On this occasion I made an official visit to assist in receiving the Grand Z. on his official visit to my mother Chapter. The Grand Z., J. Ross Robertson, was enthusiastically welcomed by a large number of Companions, including a few distinguished visitors, viz.: M. E. Comp. Kivas Tully, Toronto, E. Comp. James Davis, Hamilton, and Comp. M. H. Twitchell, Louisiana.

The officers of the Chapter conferred the degrees of M. M. M., M. E. M. and R. A. on two candidates. The work was well performed by the Principals, but owing to the absence of some subordinate officers, their place had to be filled by Companions who were not prepared to undertake the duties. This, together with undue haste "which was not characteristic of Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter" rather spoiled the effect of the work, which gave the Grand Z. the opportunity to remark that the work was not perfectly rendered. The work being finished the Grand Z. gave an excellent address on Capitular Masonry, which was instructive, and was appreciated by the Companions. After the close of the Chapter the Companions sat down to supper, the usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a very enjoyable evening brought to a close, much to the Companions' regret, for the time had arrived for the Grand Z's departure west.

I made two more official visits since the Grand Z's visit and had the several degrees exemplified, which was done in a perfect manner, without making a single mistake, and certainly I have never visited any Chapter which can do more perfect work year after year, and the exemplification of degrees by the officers of this Chapter, for the last twenty-three years, to my knowledge will bear favorable comparison with any Chapter; this may be thought to be egotistical, but what I have stated can be substantiated by visitors. This Chapter retains its fee of \$20 for exaltation. Election takes place in April, and installation in May. The Chapter re-elected the Principals and Principal Sojourner and I

installed the remainder of the elected and appointed officers.

Scribe E's books are well kept and the proceedings properly recorded. I trust the Chapter will in the future retain its efficiency as it has done in the past.

The Companions are looking forward to a Grand centennial celebration to be held in 1897.

The Chapter has to mourn the loss by death of four Companions.

CARLETON, No. 16, Ottawa, meets in the Masonic Hall on the third Friday in each month. By direction of the Grand Z. I ordered this Chapter to hold a Chapter of Instruction, on the evening of May 17th, 1895, and to receive the M. E. the Grand Z., J. Ross Robertson, R. E. Comp. J. L. Adams, G. S. in official visits. Invitations were issued and a few officers from other Chapters attended. The Grand Z. arrived early in the forenoon of the 17th and spent the greater part of the day in visiting officers and Companions. His presence in Ottawa at this time as the chief ruler of the Royal Craft was marked by the manner in which he was welcomed. In the evening he was received by the Companions in Chapter assembled. "It was a royal welcome" and shows that his popularity is still unbounded.

A Lodge of M. M.'s was opened at 6.30 o'clock, p. m., and the officers of the Chapter conferred the degrees of M. M. M., M. E. M. and Royal Arch on one candidate. The work was performed in a most admirable manner, "First Principal was perfect," only a few slight mistakes made in preparation. The Grand Z's time being limited he had to leave before the closing of the Chapter. It was indeed a Chapter of instruction. I only wish all the officers of the district could have been present to see how the work proceeded, every officer in his place, there was no time wasted by subordinate officers. This Chapter maintains the highest standard of efficiency and retains its fee of \$25 for exaltation, elects its officers in December and installs in the January following. Scribe E's books are properly and neatly kept.

I have to thank R. E. Comp. Butterworth, E. Comps. McArthur and Luke for their kind attention during my sickness while in Ottawa.

GRENVILLE, No. 22, Prescott—Meets in Masonic Hall second Tuesday of each month. I paid an official visit to this Chapter on the evening of the 14th January, 1895, in company with the Grand Z. Although the Chapter was kept waiting until a late hour pending our arrival from Maitland, which the Companions bore patiently, the presence of a goodly number evinced their zeal in remaining to receive the Grand Z. and his Deputy. M. M. Lodge was opened at 10.30, p. m., E. Comp. Graham and his officers proceeded to confer the M. M. M. degree and acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. The Grand Z. was very particular in illustrating the secret work and gave general information on Capitular Masonry.

This old Chapter contains quite a number of zealous and distinguished Companions and is in a very flourishing condition, having made good progress during the year. Scribe E's books are well and neatly kept. They elect and install their officers in December. On enquiry regarding exaltation fee, I was informed by First Principal that they had not reduced it yet, but propose to bring it before the Chapter soon.

PEMBROKE, No. 58, Mattawa, meets in the Masonic Hall on the first Thursday of each month. I paid an official visit to this Chapter and received a very cordial welcome, arriving there in the forenoon. The Scribe, E. Comp. A. N. Grasswell accompanied me around the town, introducing me to the Companions. On the Chapter assembling at 8 o'clock p. m. in the absence of Ex. Comp. R. A. Klock, I took the chair, called to order and opened, etc., the several Lodges and Chapters, and instructed the Companions in the secret work of each degree. I next proceeded, with the assistance of Ex. Comp. Lovell and Boucher, of North Bay Chapter, and E. Comp. John McCracken, the H., P. Z, to install the officers for the ensuing year, which was done, with the exception of H. elect, who did not present himself. This Chapter has every prospect of being one of the best worked Chapters in the district, the officers installed have ability and are residents of the town. A telegram was received from E. Comp. Klock expressing his regret for being absent. Scribe E's books are well kept and I

have great hopes that my successor will find on his visit a prosperous and well-worked Chapter.

SUSSEX, No. 59, Brockville, meets in Chapter room on the Friday on or before full moon. This Chapter elects its officers in December and installs in January. The First Principal, E. Comp. J. Menish, requested me to install and invest the officers elected and appointed for the ensuing year on January 11, 1895, and also extended an invitation to R. E. Comp. Shaw to assist, which was accepted on condition that they would postpone the installation until the 17th, when the Grand Z. would be present on his official visit, when perhaps he would honor the Chapter by performing the ceremony. Under the direction of Grand Z., I was endeavoring to make arrangements to hold a joint Chapter of Instruction between Sussex and St. Lawrence. In this I was unsuccessful and had to order each Chapter to hold a separate Lodge of Instruction, which was finally agreed to.

The Chapter was opened at 4 o'clock p. m. with 26 members and 12 visitors present to receive the Grand Z., when the Grand Superintendent proceeded to install and invest the officers, assisted by R. E. Comp. Shaw and E. Comp. Colcock. The new officers closed the Chapter and M. M. M. Lodge was opened with old officers in the chairs. E. Comp. Menish and his officers exemplified the M. M. M. degree in a very impressive manner and were commended for their good work. The Grand Z. assisted by Grand Superintendent illustrated the secret work. Grand Z. then gave them a short sketch of the history of Capitular Masonry. This is a prosperous Chapter, and its new officers will do good work, and look well to the interests of Chapter during their term of office. Scribe E.'s books are well and neatly kept, and the proceedings of the Chapter well recorded.

GRANITE, No. 61, Almonte, meets at the Masonic Hall on the first Monday of each month. The Grand Z. was pleased to instruct me to order a joint Chapter of Instruction to be held in Granite Chapter room on the 25th January, 1895, Maple U. D. officers to exemplify the M. M. M. degree; Bonnechere, No. 114, to exemplify M. E. M. degree, and Granite, No. 61, to exemplify

the R. A. degree. Bonnechre could not respond owing to some of its principal officers being absent, hence the work all fell to the other two Chapters who numbered nine members each. At four o'clock p. m., M. E. M. Lodge was opened and M. E. M. degree was exemplified by E. Comp. McIntosh, of Maple, U. D., and the other officers belonging to Granite, No. 61. At 6.30 p. m., M. M. M. Lodge was opened and the Grand Z. was introduced to the Companions who received him in a becoming manner. M. M. M. degree was then proceeded with by the officers of Maple, U. D., and rendered in a very efficient manner. R. Arch was then exemplified by Granite officers except First Principal which was filled by E. Comp. McIntosh. This work was done in a most creditable and efficient manner and was highly commended by the Grand Z. At intervals the Grand Z. gave instructive information to the Companions in the secret work, and also addressed them at some length on the history of Capitular Masonry. The Grand Z. had to leave early and take a sleigh ride of some seven miles to catch a train for the west at Carleton Place, much to the regret of the Companions. Granite Chapter had a grand banquet prepared; however his Deputy and their Companions of Maple Leaf did full justice in partaking of the excellent repast. The hope that my predecessor E. Comp. Butterworth expressed in his report is being realized, and this Chapter will go on and prosper. It is composed of good material, and zealous Companions, its Past First Principals are sterling men. Scribe E's books are well and neatly kept. The Chapter elect their officers in February and install in March. I endeavored to make another visit to Granite, but much to my regret I was prevented by other pressing duties.

MAITLAND, No. 68, North Augusta—Meets in the Masonic Hall on the first Friday after full moon, elects its officers in December and installs in January. I paid a visit to this Chapter in company with the Grand Z. on January 14th, 1895. The Grand Z. provided a double sleigh and horses, and we started from Daniels' hotel, Prescott, about 11 o'clock, a. m., arriving in N. Augusta at 2 o'clock, p. m., where we were received by four Companions out of a membership of 31, who were

gratified to see us arriving safely after driving 22 miles through a blinding snow storm. The Companions proceeded at once and opened a Lodge of M. M. M. and exemplified the M. M. M. degree, which was performed in a very satisfactory manner. Grand Z., with the assistance of Grand Superintendent, instructed the Companions in all the secret work and G. Z. gave an address on Capitular Masonry. After closing we were invited to join with the Companions in partaking of a repast to replenish the inner man for our homeward journey to Prescott, another 22 miles through the snow storm still unabated. We started at 6 o'clock, p. m., sharp, reaching Prescott at 10.30 p. m., safe and sound none the worse for our experience of being dumped occasionally in the snow, but every time the G. S. uppermost. The Grand Z. will not soon forget his sleigh ride back from North Augusta to Prescott, more especially from Maitland north for three miles through snow from four to six feet deep which necessitated tramping a road through snow drifts, to enable the horses to pass through. It affords me great pleasure to point to the marked progress this Chapter has made during the year with good prospects for the future. Scribe E's. books are well and neatly kept.

ST. LAWRENCE, NO. 100, Brockville, meets in the Masonic Hall on the first Thursday of each month. E. Comp. Colcock, First Principal of this Chapter, extended an invitation to me to install and invest the officers elected and appointed for the ensuing year on the regular Convocation of January 3rd, 1894. I accepted and performed the installation ceremony on the above date, and instructed the officers in the secret work. Later on I was entertained at a supper. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. The officers installed should give a good account of themselves at the end of their term, all of them being possessed of ability, and by application they will rank second to none in the district. My next visit was January 17th, 1895, in company with the Grand Z. on his official visit to the joint Chapter of Instruction which was to be held by the two Chapters in Brockville, which could not be effected, so a rearrangement was made and the Chapter held a separate

Lodge of Instruction at 9.30 o'clock p. m. A good attendance of the members and visitors from Sussex greeted the M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, when a Lodge of M. E. M. was opened and the degree was exemplified by the newly installed officers January 3rd, 1895, which they performed in a creditable manner considering the short time they had been in office. The Companions were instructed by the Grand Z. and Grand S. in the secret work of all the degrees, and after a short lecture by the Grand Z. on Capitular Masonry, and after the closing of the Lodge all were invited to the supper room to partake of a repast when about thirty Companions sat down doing ample justice to the good things provided. The Grand Z. appeared at his best and delivered a lengthy address on Masonry in general which was listened to with marked attention. Although the Chapter has not advanced any candidates during the year, yet they are carrying on the work of the Chapter with regularity. Scribe E's. books are remarkable for neatness. The transactions of the Chapter are in good form, and I foresee plenty of good work for them during the next half year.

ST. JOHN'S, No. 112, Morrisburg—Meets in the Masonic Hall on the first Tuesday of each month, elects its officers in December and installs in January. I visited the Chapter January 16th, 1895, arriving there about noon, and was received at the station by E. Comp. Kennedy, who conducted me to the hotel. I spent the afternoon in examination of the Chapter room, books, paraphernalia, etc., which I found to meet every requirement. This Chapter is better equipped than any in the district, with the most complete set of books, forms of summons, application, etc., and for the extremely neat and clear manner in which they are kept, and I would hold them forth as models. I also examined First and Second Principals in all the degrees, finding them well posted, the First Principal having all the work memorized but falls into the same error as I do myself, viz: trying to assist the other officers while at work, and overlooking my own. When the hour of meeting, 6.30, had arrived nearly all the members were present. The Chapter was opened, and on the Grand Z's arrival on

his official visit he was formally introduced, when he proceeded to install the officers with the assistance of the G. S. Afterwards lodges of M. M. M. and M. E. M. were opened and the degrees were conferred on candidates which was fairly well performed. The Grand Z. assisted by Grand Superintendent, went through the esoteric work of all the degrees, communicating correctly the work as ordered. The Grand Z. then gave the usual inexhaustable lecture on Capitular Masonry in general. On returning from the Chapter room we were conducted to the hotel, where a supper was provided and served by "mine host," a Companion of the Chapter, when the wants of the inner man were replenished. The Companions conducted the Grand Z. and his deputy to the train and saw them off for Brockville. On invitation I again visited this Chapter for the purpose of taking part in a public procession of the Royal Craft to attend divine service, and to decorate the graves of deceased Companions. This Chapter has had a prosperous year, with bright anticipations for the future.

COVENANT, No. 113, Farran's Point, meets in the Masonic Hall, on the first Wednesday of each month. In company with the Grand Z. I visited this Chapter on January 15th, 1895. The Grand Z. waived a formal introduction here, as he did in all his visits, for the purpose of seeing if Chapters and Lodges were properly opened, and instruct if required. The Companions assembled to the number of seventeen, when a lodge of M. M. M. was opened, and a candidate advanced, the work being well and creditably performed. The Grand Z., assisted by the G. S., went through the secret work of all the degrees for the instruction of the Companions and here as elsewhere, the Grand Z. lectured on Capitular Masonry. The First Principal E. Comp. Haines makes an excellent presiding officer, has a pleasing delivery and renders his work correctly. Scribe E's books are creditably kept. The Chapter is fairly well equipped and has bright prospects in the near future, being composed of good material. On the close of the lodge we were entertained by a splendid oyster supper in the hall supper room, (in connection with the lodge

room) afterwards the Grand Z. and his deputy were given a sleigh ride back to Aultsville and provided by the Companions with private accomodation for the night.

BONNECHERE, No. 114, Renfrew, meets in the Masonic Hall on the third Monday of each month; elects their officers in December and installs in January. I paid an official visit to this Chapter. On my arrival in Renfrew in the afternoon, I received a cordial welcome by E. Comp. Barr, P. Z., who took great pains to entertain, and drove me round town. We called at the Manse of the esteemed Rev. Dr. Campbell, 3rd Principal of the Chapter, which gave me an opportunity of renewing an acquaintance of long standing. I passed a pleasant hour with himself and his excellent wife, and recalled pleasant reminiscences of Kingston. When the hour of Chapter meeting arrived, fourteen members and two visitors had assembled. The Chapter was opened in a correct manner by the Principals and a candidate in waiting was initiated, the degree being fairly well given. I then instructed the Chapter in the secret work of the degrees. The Chapter is fortunate in having a set of officers of high attainments. It is well equipped and its hall is one of the finest in the district, so that my successor may look forward to a well worked and prosperous Chapter. Scribe E's. books are neatly kept. While here I met another old acquaintance in the person of E. Comp. William Hay, of Ottawa, whom I had not seen for many years, and the conversation we had over our past experience in secret work in Ottawa was indeed refreshing.

DUFFERIN, U. D., Carleton Place.—An applicant for a warrant at last Grand Chapter. The sub-committee on account of internal dissensions, recommended that the dispensation be continued for another year, by which time it was hoped they would be settled. But such hope did not appear to be realized. The Grand Z. after due enquiry into the difficulties existing, prior to meeting of last Grand Chapter, ordered the withdrawal of the dispensation being the only mode of healing the matter.

Another regular application from Carleton Place was made by fourteen Royal Arch Masons petitioning

M. E. Grand Principals and Grand Chapter for a warrant of constitution, empowering them to meet as a regular Chapter at Carleton Place, the Chapter to be designated "Maple." On its receipt I carefully enquired into the character of each signer, weighing well what had occurred in the past, the result being, I found each one to be a Companion of good moral character and esteemed citizen. I therefore on the 25th September, 1894, strongly recommended that the prayer of the petition be granted.

The Grand Z. granted a new dispensation for Maple Chapter to replace Dufferin. The Chapter was formed and the officers installed on the 11th October, 1894, by E. Comp. W. B. McArthur, a member of the Chapter, I being unable to perform the ceremony, which I regretted very much.

It is my pleasant duty to report that the Chapter is doing well and one of the most active in the district, being well officered, with fair attendance at each meeting.

I have already recorded the work performed by this Chapter and the efficiency of the officers in the part they took in the work allotted to them at the joint Chapter of Instruction held at Almonte in connection with Granite Chapter, No. 61. On the 31st May I visited them officially, when they exemplified the three degrees by advancing, receiving and exalting two candidates. The Principal and officers did their work without a single mistake, and no Chapter can do more perfect work, and I must here record that this is largely due to the indefatigable exertions of the First Principal, E. Comp. D. H. McIntosh, M. D. The Chapter is fairly well equipped and is making rapid progress, nothing but the best material is accepted, and good and true work done.

The books of the Chapter are properly and neatly kept, and Scribe E. is to be congratulated for his painstaking, and it gives me great pleasure to strongly recommend the Grand Chapter to issue a warrant to this Chapter.

I would most respectfully point out to Grand Chapter that Central District, No. 12, through its augmentation during the last two years now comprising

twelve Chapters located long distances apart, has become unwieldy for one G. Superintendent, as no workingman occupying the position of Grand Superintendent can do full justice either to himself or the district. I would therefore urgently recommend for favorable consideration the great desirability that a division be made forming it into two districts. The division I would suggest would be that those Chapters situated along the line and adjacent to the G. T. Railway be formed into a district and be designated St. Lawrence District No. 12, composed of the following Chapters, viz: Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui No. 1, Kingston; Sussex No. 59, Brockville; St. Lawrence No. 100, Brockville; Maitland No. 68, North Augusta; Grenville No. 22, Prescott; St. John's No. 112, Morrisburg; Covenant No. 113, Farran's Point; total, 7 Chapters. And those Chapters situated along the line of the C. P. Railway to be formed into a district and designated Ottawa District No. 13, to include the following Chapters, viz: Carleton No. 16, Ottawa; Maple, U. D., Carleton Place; Granite No. 61, Almonte; Bonnechere No. 114, Renfrew; Pembroke No. 58, Mattawa, total, 5 Chapters.

This division as will be observed I claim to be most acceptable to the whole district, and I am convinced that Grand Chapter will see the wisdom of this recommended change, and Capitular Masonry will be greatly benefitted when supervision is made more convenient.

The following distances will show how far a Grand Superintendent has to travel from any one point to visit a Chapter in the district: From Kingston to Renfrew, 104 miles; Renfrew to Mattawa, 128 miles; Renfrew to Almonte, 35 miles; Almonte to Carleton Place, 7 miles; Carleton Place to Ottawa, 28 miles; Ottawa to Farran's Point, via C. A. and G. T. Railways, 125 miles; Farran's Point to Morrisburg, 11 miles; Morrisburg to Prescott, $21\frac{1}{4}$ miles; Prescott to Brockville, $11\frac{3}{4}$ miles; Brockville to North Augusta, by stage, 12 miles; Brockville to Carleton Place, 45 miles; Brockville to Kingston, 50 miles.

If the Grand Superintendent resides anywhere along the G. T. Railway, it will take him an afternoon and night with loss of sleep to visit these Chapters located

along G. T. Railway, and from one and a half to two days and a night to any one Chapter along the C. P. Railway and vice versa.

In resigning my position as Grand Superintendent of Central District No. 12, I do so with regret that I have not been able to do more visiting; however I am parting officially from a happy and prosperous fraternal Masonic family, and I have heartily appreciated and shall ever remember with kindness all the cordiality that has been extended to me during my visits and intercourse among my Companions, and I sincerely trust that the harmony and good feeling at present existing may continue to prevail throughout the district, being confident that whoever my successor may be he may receive the same courtesy that has always been extended to me.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES ADAMS,
Grand Supt. Central District.

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE IN CENTRAL DISTRICT No. 12, FROM MAY 31ST, 1894, TO MAY 31ST, 1895.

No.	Chapter.	Place.	No. of Members May 31, 1894.	No. of Members May 31, 1895.	Admissions 94 to 95.	Joinings.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Regular Meetings.	Emergent.	Average Attendance.	Average Visitors.	Work Done.	Degrees Worked by Z or P. Z.	Amount of Exaltation Fee.	Yearly Dues.	No. in Arrears 1 year.	No. in arrears 2 yrs. and over	Total Dues Outstanding.	Liabilities:	Assets.	Insurance.	Furniture and Paraphernalia.	Funds in Bank.	To Acct. of Whom.	Prospects.		
1	Ancient Fronteac	Kingston.....	83	79	4	4	1	2	3	4	8	2	12	4	4	4	Z	\$20	\$2.00	17	15	126.00	Nil.	676.00	200.00	300.00	250.00	Treas	Good.	
16	and Cataract	Ottawa.....	80	78	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Z	25	3.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Bright.	
22	Carleton.....	Prescott.....	48	48	6	6	1	7	..	..	8	1	18	..	1	2	Z	15	2.40	..	..	34.60	Nil.	Nil.	..	..	..	..	..	
58	Grenville.....	Mattawa.....	33	27	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	4	6	12	Z	10	2.00	..	..	40.35	Nil.	548.35	Nil.	350.00	Nil.	..	Good.	
59	Pembroke.....	Brockville.....	55	57	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	4	3	3	Z	10	1.00	12	131.00	Nil.	300.00	Nil.	100.00	Nil.	..	Bright.		
61	Sussex.....	Almonte.....	28	31	4	4	1	1	..	..	6	1	1	1	6	5	Z	10	2.00	12	13	131.16	Nil.	361.16	Nil.	230.00	Nil.	..	Good.	
68	Granite.....	N. Augusta.....	27	32	6	6	1	1	1	7	7	1	10	1	6	5	Z	20	2.00	8	..	170.00	350.00	200.00	300.00	200.00	..	..	Bright.	
100	Maitland.....	Brockville.....	46	40	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	1	12	3	1	3	Z	10	2.00	12	..	27.00	12.60	73.40	Nil.	100.00	Nil.	..	Good.	
112	St. John's.....	Morrisburg.....	19	29	8	8	2	7	..	10	10	2	12	2	8	6	Z	20	2.00	8	..	29.00	170.00	350.00	300.00	200.00	..	..	Bright.	
113	Covenant.....	Farran's Point.....	22	30	8	8	..	..	..	12	12	3	12	2	8	10	Z	10	1.50	12	..	18.00	65.00	508.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	..	..	Good.
114	Bonnechere.....	Renfrew.....	19	21	2	2	1	1	1	12	12	4	11	2	4	2	Z	15	2.40	..	..	Nil.	Nil.	200.00	226.63	Nil.	..	..	Very Fair.	
115	Maple U D.....	Carleton Place.....	26	12	12	12	1	1	1	5	8	5	14	1	12	11	Z	10	2.00	..	..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	125.00	Nil.	..	..	Bright.	

JAMES ADAMS,

Grand Supt. Central District.

ALGOMA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor to present my report, which should have gone in earlier, but from want of some information which I had requested from the Chapters which has not yet been received.

However, I may say that in this district two of the Chapters are alive and appear to be doing good work, but the third I fear has lost its usefulness. The two first are Algonquin, No. 102, Sault Ste. Marie, and Shuniah, No. 82, Port Arthur, which have held regular meetings and are doing good work. Golden No. 90, Rat Portage, has not held a meeting during the year as far as I know, and I fear is in anything but a prosperous condition. As the Scribe E's. reports show the number of degrees conferred and the amount of work done, together with the financial standing of their respective Chapters, I will not recapitulate but will respectfully submit this as my report.

J. A. FRASER,
Grand Supt. Algoma District.

Port Arthur, July 8th, 1895.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

I have the honor to submit herewith my report as Grand Superintendent of Manitoba District for the past year.

Owing to the general business depression there was a falling off in the number of applicants for the Chapters embraced in this district. From what I can learn, however, those who have been accepted are of the proper material. Outside of Winnipeg the field for Royal Arch Masonry is very limited; the population is scattered and the fraternity is pretty well satisfied if, for the present, they successfully keep up the Blue Lodges. With the growth of settlement in the country, however, and with the prospect of a magnificent harvest, I think we can confidently look for a satisfactory increase in membership in the Chapters now existing in the near future.

Meantime there is an excellent feeling among the Chapters, and from many quarters widely separated I hear the hope expressed that soon the fraternity will be in a position to institute and carry on Chapters in various places not now enjoying the benefit of Capitular Masonry.

PRINCE RUPERT, No. 52, Winnipeg—The work in this Chapter is up to its usual high standard. The number of Companions now on the roll is 153, a falling off from last year's report caused mainly by suspensions for N. P. D.

KEYSTONE, No. 99, Portage la Prairie.—This Chapter has remained stationary as to membership but the officers and Companions keep up to the work by the very excellent plan of exemplifying one degree each meeting night.

CORINTHIAN, No. 101, Boissevian.—This Chapter, though few in numbers, is composed of Companions who have the interest of Royal Arch Masonry at heart, and I trust their efforts to keep up the interest in the work in their locality may be crowned with success.

SIGNET, No. 105, Winnipeg—This Chapter is flourishing both as to new material and as to the excellent feeling among its members. Their degree work is well done.

ZEREDATHA, No. 111, Morden—This Chapter is holding its own and its members expect to show more material prosperity in the coming year than they have done for the period included in this report. Its membership, though not strong numerically, is well adapted to take care of Capitular Masonry in their important community.

ALBERTA, No. 106, Calgary—This Chapter is in a most flourishing condition. It started the year with a membership of 37, and advanced, received and exalted 11, which, with no losses, makes a present membership of 49. They also have some work ahead of them. The officers are well up in their work, and there appears to be an excellent future in store for the Chapter in this important centre.

In conclusion, I might add that owing to the com-

plete loss by fire of the Masonic Hall in Winnipeg, last November, the work of the Chapters in Winnipeg has been carried on under great difficulties. The monetary loss caused by the destruction of all their property was considerable, but a new temple is now being arranged for, in which a very fine Chapter room is to be provided, and I am confident a prosperous era is in store for Royal Arch Masonry in Winnipeg.

I cannot close this report without expressing my deep regret that I have not been able to visit more of the Chapters in this district. The distances are great, and I am sorry I could not spare the time to visit all the Chapters over which you did me the honor to appoint me Grand Superintendent.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. A. WINDATT,
Grand Supt. Manitoba District.

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor for the second time as Superintendent of the British Columbia District, to report on the condition and prospects of Capitular Masonry in this Province.

I regret to say that we still remain with but one Chapter working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada. This is accounted for partly owing to the dull times during the past year, and partly from the fact that there are two Chapters (one in Victoria and one in Nanaimo) working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Scotland. I hope, however, that during the coming year we will be able to establish a Chapter at New Westminster, to work under a dispensation from the M. E. Grand Z. of Canada. I also firmly believe that when the M. E. Grand Z. pays us his intended visit this summer, or during the early fall, he will be able to accomplish much in the way of bringing about a union of the Chapters in this Province under the banner of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

You will notice by the annual report that Vancouver

Royal Arch Chapter, No. 98, has had a bright and prosperous year, and notwithstanding the dull times it has been one of the best years in the record of this Chapter. This is largely due to the capable and excellent officers who have had charge of it during the past six months. The ritual is worked fully and in a splendid manner by E. Companion Watson and his efficient officers. The attendance is always good. The material taken in is excellent, and altogether the prospects for this Chapter could not very well be brighter.

A large amount of furniture and paraphernalia have been procured during the year and the Chapter is now as well equipped as any in a city of an equal population.

I have attended almost all of the meetings of this Chapter during the year and on January 9th I had the pleasure of installing its officers.

On the 2nd of April I accompanied the E. Z. and some of the members of this Chapter on an official visit to Columbia R. A. Chapter, No. 120, Grand Register of Scotland, Victoria. We were given a hearty and cordial welcome by the E. Z. and Companions. We found some difference in comparing the work with ours, and we returned well satisfied with our own Grand Chapter. We expect a return visit from Columbia Chapter in the near future, when they will be accorded a hearty reception.

In conclusion I would say that the business prospects in this Province are growing brighter every day, and in consequence I expect a bright and prosperous year for Masonry generally throughout this district.

With fraternal regards to the Companions of Grand Chapter,

Respectfully yours,

WM. DOWNIE,

Supt. C. C. District.

Vancouver, B. C., July 5th, 1895.

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, No. 15.—1894-95.

Chapter.	No.	Place.	Membership.	Increase.	Meetings during year.	Average Attendance.	Degrees—M. M. M.	Degrees—M. E. M.	Degrees—R. A. M.	Total Dues Outstanding.	No. in Arrears one year.	Over two years.	Value Furniture and Paraphernalia.	Amount of Insurance.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Are Funds in Bank?	To Account of Whom.	Are returns made to G.C.	Prospects.
Vancouver.....	98	Vancouver	76	20	21	17	22	22	19	\$ 270.50	24	17	\$ 600.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1237.72	Nil.	Yes	Treas	Yes,	Very Good.

WM. DOWNIE,

Grand Supt. B. C. District.

AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, and Officers
of the Grand Chapter of Canada:*

I hereby submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this district.

During my tenure of office the number of exaltations have been numerous and will compare favorably with the sister Chapters.

My predecessor referred at length last year to the peculiar relations existing between the Canadian and the Victorian bodies in this territory. He also informed you of certain steps which had been taken during his term to bring about friendly relationship.

From time to time negotiations have been instituted without any definite result.

In assuming the position of Grand Superintendent of this district, I opened up correspondence with the Second Grand Principal of Grand Chapter of Victoria, M. E. Comp. Geo. Baker, who with a committee from their Grand Officers met a committee from our side in the most fraternal spirit. The result of this conference was "that it was desirable in the interests of R. A. Masonry in this territory that an amalgamation should take place." A basis of union was then formulated. This latter was considered at a special convocation of our five Chapters and adopted subject to the Mark degree being provided for in the meanwhile. (The Grand Chapter of Victoria holds no jurisdiction over the Mark Degree.)

Whilst we anticipate severing our filial connection with the Grand Chapter of Canada in the near future, such a step will be taken with a great deal of sorrow and regret. Seeing, however, the peculiar circumstances surrounding R. A. Masonry here, and as Australians fostering an innate feeling of self autonomy, we consider for the sake of unanimity all branches of Freemasonry, like the symbolic stones of that spiritual temple "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens," should be cemented with the bond of amity and concord and that the "crimson thread of kinship" should flow in rhythmic cycle from shore to shore and pole to pole.

Like my predecessors I must thank R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, my District Scribe for his invaluable assistance and hearty co-operation in forwarding the interests of the Royal Craft.

As to our Chapters in this district there is little to say.

AUSTRALIAN KILWINNING, NO. 96, meets at Melbourne instead of North Carleton. I visited this Chapter officially at the installation of Dr. G. T. Howard as First Principal, on 12th February last. The ceremony was performed by R. E. Comp. E. H. Williams, M. D., assisted by myself. This Chapter meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Number on roll 27. Scribe E. and Treasurer's books satisfactory. This Chapter does not appear to make as great headway as the personelle of its officers would apparently warrant, still I have no doubt the Chapter will give a good account of itself in the future. M. E. Comp. D. Spry represented it at last Convocation.

CITY OF MELBOURNE, NO. 97, meets at same place as last year. I have visited this Chapter every Convocation except one. I was present at the installation of officers last November. The ceremony was performed by R. E. Comp. E. A. Collis, assisted by R. E. Comp. J. H. Leishman, in a most exemplary manner. The present Z., E. Comp. L. J. Wilson, is very energetic and painstaking in carrying out the duties of his responsible position. The meetings are held on the second Thursday of alternate months. The work of this Chapter is exceptionally good, though the ceremony practised is not strictly in accordance with our recognized ritual. The Scribe E's. books are exceedingly well kept. I have not received particulars as to members but am cognizant of the fact that several exaltations have taken place during the year. This Chapter was not represented at last Convocation.

CITIZENS, No. 107.—After a great amount of deal this warrant was raised and Comp. Hoogklimmer was installed as Z. The other officers named in the warrant either failed to be present or had left the colony, hence this Chapter (if a Chapter) has but one Principal. The Scribe E. is E. Comp. C. Chapman. They have held one Convocation since inauguration and have exalted

three or four brethren, but of this I have no official cognizance. The Chapter is supposed to meet on the second Thursday, but has not done so.

DUKE OF ALBANY, No. 108—Meets at Oddfellows' Hall, Melbourne, on third Friday in the month. It has made very marked progress from its inception and still continues so. I was present at the installation of this Chapter on December 21st last when E. Comp. E. Lanthall Oldfield was installed as First Principal. The ceremony was performed by R. E. Comp. E. H. Williams, assisted by R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy and myself. The work of this Chapter is not in keeping with its progress, though a very great deal of enthusiasm is shown, yet a want of knowledge is patent. The number of members on the roll is 48. Dues \$3. This Chapter is practically clear of all its initiatory expenses and liabilities. The Chapter was represented at last Convocation by M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant.

UNITED WIMMERA, No. 109—This warrant was raised in October last by myself, assisted by R. E. Comps. L. S. Dumont, J. E. Kennedy, Campbell and Harbour, in the presence of some of the charter members and visitors. The work of consecration, dedication and constitution was performed in the afternoon. I then advanced, received and exalted fifteen candidates and subsequently installed the Principals, the whole ceremony terminating about midnight. Every credit is due to the earnestness displayed by those companions who accompanied me on the occasion, having to sacrifice time and money in undertaking a tedious journey of over 200 miles into the northern part of the colony. The E. Z., Comp. W. R. Liddstone, is a Companion of tried merit and it is solely due to his energy that the Chapter occupies its present position. This is the only Chapter we have in the country and I think from the enthusiasm displayed it will reflect credit on its promoters.

Any further news of interest will be forwarded in a supplementary report.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

FRANCIS B. L. GAFFNEY,
Grand Supt., Australian District.

613 Canning St., North Carleton.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF CANADA.

CITY OF MELBOURNE, No. 97.—I have officially visited this Chapter at every Convocation but one.

The attendance has been very poor indeed. The officers, E. Comp. J. S. Wilson, Z., and E. Bowery, P. S., do the work of their respective situations in a very creditable manner indeed.

At the last Convocation, May 16th, the Third Principal, E. Comp. E. Allyett, was removed from office by vote of the Chapter, he having left the colony, and the P. S. Comp. E. Bowery was elected to fill the vacancy. After the business of exaltation was completed, R. E. Comp. A. E. Collis, P. G. Supt. (a member of the Chapter), installed Comp. Bowery into the chair of J. with the full ceremony and in a manner that calls for the highest expression of praise. He is one of those P. Z.'s who, although a member of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, as well of the Canadian Grand Chapter, has identified himself so much with our cause as to bring suggested reprimand from the Victorias from himself. Still he lives and is one of the best installing Z.'s in the colony.

Some time ago I wrote the Z. of this Chapter calling his attention to the arrears of dues, etc., and informed him that until the same was liquidated it would fail to have representation in the Grand Chapter of Canada. I am happy to report that in answer to my letter I have this day received a communication from G. Elliot, S. E. of the Chapter, informing me that he has now forwarded to the G. S. E. of Canada a draft for £7 in part payment of arrears due. The prospects of this Chapter are improving but not rapidly.

Every regular meeting during my term of office has been held, also two emergencies. Five Companions have been exalted during the year, and five Companions have resigned, therefore the roll of the Chapter will stand as in last year's report, viz: 75 members.

He infers in his letter that it is the want of unanimity in R. A. Masonry here that keeps the Chapter in the balance, and suggests amalgamation would set matters going again.

I have also received a communication from him by a previous post to the following effect:

"At the regular Convocation of the Chapter held on Thursday, 16th May, 1895, it was unanimously resolved that E. Comp. Chas. Chapman, P. R., should be submitted to the M. E. Grand Z. for Grand Chapter honors, and respectfully requests that the rank of District Grand Superintendent be conferred upon him, we also fraternally submit for your approval and endorsement E. Comp. S. J. Wilson, who is now First Principal, for Grand Chapter honors."

Books are excellently kept, Chapter well appointed.

AUSTRALASIAN KILWINNING—This Chapter meets at the I. O. O. F. Hall, Melbourne. It has very good officers in the Principal chairs. E. Comp. G. F. Howard M. D. is at present the Z. and occupies the chair of K. S. in the University Craft Lodge and Preceptor of the Daniel Spry Preceptory, E. Comp. Morris, H., is a very enthusiastic officer and E. Comp. W. C. Dawson is one of the best ritualists within this territory, whether in Craft, Capitular or Templar working.

I have been present at all the Convocations of this Chapter and assisted in advancing and exalting one Companion.

The Chapter has not made much progress. It recommends R. E. Comp. Kennedy for the position of Grand Superintendent.

Dues have been forwarded by last mail. The appointments of the Chapter are very good indeed, in fact it is nearly complete, and the only Canadian Chapter owning a full equipment. Comp. W. Brady is S. E. and does his work well. The membership has been increased by one since last returns.

DUKE OF ALBANY, NO. 108.—At every Convocation of this Chapter, and also emergency meetings, I have paid an official visit, and on the last occasion, May 17th, presided and performed the ceremony of advancement, four candidates putting in an appearance; thirty-three members present. This Chapter from its inception has made great strides, numbering 49 members on the roll. Under the guidance of E Comp. Lenthall Oldfield,

Z., E. Comp. D. Campbell, H., and E. Comp. T. Medcalfe, J., this Chapter should progress in the future as in the past.

The installation of the above Principals, which took place in December, was performed by E. Comp. E. H. Williams, M. D., P. G. P. S., in his usual impressive and effective manner. I may here note that R. E. Comp. Williams is noted for his proficiency in whatever he undertakes. He is the first P. Z. of this Chapter and Grand Master of the Sovereign Great Priory of Victoria. I invested the officers.

The Mark degree appears to be much more patronised under our constitution, as well as under others, possibly because the Royal Arch degree is somewhat lengthy, and some of the lectures being obstruse to the majority exercise to make the ceremony tiresome. I endeavor to shorten the lectures where possible, and have suggested this course to Chapters. At the last Convocation of the Chapter, May 17th, 1895, a resolution was passed to this effect: Proposed by E. Comp. J. T. Medcalfe, and seconded by Companion H. Smith, Treasurer,

“That R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, P. G. P. Soj., be nominated for the position of Grand Superintendent for the Australian District No. 16, and that this resolution be forwarded to the Grand Superintendent for his approval and recommendation.”

It was also resolved that the name of the Z. of the Chapter, Edward Lenthall Oldfield, be submitted to Grand Chapter for Grand Chapter honors.

E. Comp. Kennedy has acted as District S. E. to every Superintendent elected in this district, and is not only an enthusiastic Mason, but I think his Masonic jurisprudence knowledge is second to none here, and most decidedly the best nomination for Grand Superintendent. It gives me the greatest pleasure in recommending him to Grand Chapter for the position. Should Grand Chapter decide to appoint another at the crisis, E. Comp. Edward Tenthall Oldfield, Z., is a very energetic Companion, and his successful management of the largest Craft Lodge in Victoria is an excellent recom-

mendation in itself. Furthermore he is the Grand Prior of the Sovereign Great Priory of Victoria. I hereby endorse the action of the Chapter in selecting him for Grand honors. Dues, etc. of this Chapter were forwarded to Grand S. E. by last mail, and M. Comp. Sargant named as proxy.

The Scribe E. informs me that there is a balance to the credit of this Chapter on the Grand Chapter books. The furniture of this Chapter is being increased gradually, the banners are hired from the Australian Kilwinning Lodge. The books are very well kept and the S. E., J. C. Kennedy, P. G. P. S., continues to do all business in accordance with the Canadian system. Several emergency meetings have been held during the last six months for the purpose of advancement. The founders of this Chapter are to be congratulated upon the success which has attended it. No Chapter in the colony has a record anywhere approaching it. Exalting 40 members in 18 months and about six others proposed.

I had the pleasure of being the recipient of a P. Z.'s jewel combining the P. M. of the Mark, on my retirement from the Z.'s chair in December. The Companions also marked their appreciation of E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy's services by a similar presentation.

UNITED WIMMERA CHAPTER, No. 109.—This Chapter is held in the country township of Murton, about 250 miles north of Melbourne, a town situated in the centre of a large wheat producing district. The members constituting the Chapter hail from the four cardinal points within the circle of 60 miles radius. Several are M. M.'s or P. M.'s of Craft Lodges. The Z., Comp. Liddstone, is the W. M. of the Craft Lodge meeting in the same town by the name of "Marma." The H. is the I. P. M. of the same Lodge, and the E. J. is a Past Master from Stowell, about 60 miles away, and who is the installing master of the surrounding district. The greatest amount of praise is due to R. E. Comp. S. Dupont and E. Comp. Liddstone for the determined stand they took in instituting this Chapter, and some reward of merit is due to them, when in the face of the most extreme opposition from the powers that be. We now acknowledge the Chapter to be one of the strongest and

best constituted in the colony. E. Comp. Liddstone does his work well. I had an opportunity of putting him through his facings, when opportunely he made a visit to Melbourne a few months ago. He visited my house, where with E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy I rehearsed the Mark and R. Arch degree. The next evening we held a Chapter of Instruction at the Kilwinning Chapter rooms. A goodly number attended, and the evening was a source of real instruction. The Chapter meets four times in the year, and has exalted twenty candidates since its inception. The name of R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy has been forwarded in nomination for the position of Grand Superintendent for the ensuing year, and the name of Comp. Liddstone, Z., is submitted for Grand Chapter honors. The furniture is being added at every Convocation and I have no doubt but that this Chapter will be a credit to those who founded it, and an ornament to Capitular Masonry in this country.

The Scribe E. has every qualification to make a proficient officer, being Secretary of a Craft Lodge in the district. The P. S. is also a Companion well calculated to do justice to this important position, being the W. M. of a Craft Lodge held at Horsham, called "Winnemara Lodge." As an evidence that the Z. of the Chapter is desirous of doing well that which has to be done, he frequently corresponds on R. A. questions with me. My thanks are due to R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, R. E. Comp. S. Dumont, E. Comp. D. Campbell and Comp. S. Harbor who assisted me at the consecration of the Chapter, and at the installation of Principals and exaltations of candidates. We brought the furniture of the Kilwinning Lodge with us and the robes of the City of Melbourne Lodge.

The CITIZENS' WARRANT—The warrant for this Chapter arrived here at the same time as the Duke of Albany and the Murtoa Warrants. But I regret the principal designate did not take it up for a very considerable time, and only did so then when urged by the late Superintendent to do so, and then after much more delay. At last the Z. was installed, the Second Principal designate was not installed, he having been elected to take a similar position in one of the Victorian Chapters.

The 3rd Principal designate could not go on having left the colony. The Chapter was not consecrated and I would decide not to recognize any acts of the Single Principal and would submit the question to Grand Chapter: "Is this a legally constituted Chapter? If not, does the installed Companion rank?" The Z. almost immediately on installation acted in a manner which might be calculated to weaken the status of our Chapter by writing or causing to be written to the G. S. E. of Victoria intimation that the Citizen's Chapter would agree to any arrangement arrived at, re amalgamation, such was the purport of the communication. The G. S. E. showed it to me quite innocently, and the actions of this Companion has been decidedly objectionable, re Masonic matters, to the Canadian Companions. He has the rank from the Grand Chapter of Canada, yet he insults the donor of his honor at every opportunity. To wit. he is the acting W. M. of a Mark Lodge, Scotch constitution, the governing body of which is the Grand Chapter of Scotland and with which fraternal intercourse exists. I visited this Mark Lodge "The Admiral Condigrood," by invitation card, being announced as the Grand Superintendent, C. C., but strange to say, I was not received as such, whilst a W. M. of our City of Melbourne Mark was accorded the usual welcome of W. Masters. I take this as an unwarrantable insult to the office that I hold, and it most decidedly shows contempt for the Grand Chapter of Canada and the honors it confers. The Masonic press "Masonry" commented adversely upon his action, and I have written the Pro. S. Master here asking for an explanation. I would recommend that this warrant be recalled. It does not exist as a Chapter. The only officer installed being the Z.—a veritable sinecure.

REAPPOINTMENT OF GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

The Chapters and the general feelings are decidedly in favor of R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy being the future Grand Superintendent for this district. Should the Grand Chapter in its wisdom think that any further appointment is necessary or advisable, considering that on Thursday evening, the 30th May, the Grand Chapter of Victoria ratified all the arrangements made by their

delegates, and the same have been unanimously agreed to by the whole of the Canadian Chapters, but it is the general desire that the amalgamation be effected at the quarterly Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Victoria which takes place on the 20th July.

As I have taken a great deal of interest ever since an approach for fraternal relations have been made, and now that such is effected, though at the cost of severance, yet I doubt not, but for the best interest I would ask Grand Chapter to let the consummation of this much desired agreement rest in my hands. I have stipulated that no Chapter shall be received into the amalgamation until all arrears are either paid to the Grand Chapter of Canada, or a written guarantee for the payment of same is handed to me prior to date of amalgamation. It will be obvious that there will be no necessity for another Superintendent; there would be no Chapter to inspect or superintend, though there would be a considerable amount of work remaining to be carried out in connection with the warrants and remittances of dues, etc. And as I have been already in communication re winding up affairs, I consider and I think that Grand Chapter will agree with me that it would not be wise to transfer this work to a new Companion, but if Grand Chapter should decide otherwise I cannot recommend any other nomination than R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, P. G. P. S. This Companion is infinitely more capable than any other suggested or nominated. The Companion recommended by the City of Melbourne Lodge represents the wish of a very small number of Companions; about eight members were present at his nomination, whilst thirty-three voted in the Duke of Albany Lodge for the former Companion, J. C. Kennedy, and the Murtoa and Australasian Kilwinning also recommend him.

The nominations have been made in accordance with my instructions to do so, as a matter of form. The Mark Lodges will, I think, decide to amalgamate with one of the P. W. Grand Mark Lodges. Very equitable terms have been offered.

GRAND HONORS.

I have been requested to forward the names of

certain Companions for the consideration of Grand Chapter, respectfully submit that Grand Chapter will in its goodness confer certain P. G. honors on those whose names are selected. In support of this request I would ask Grand Chapter to consider the position of the Canadian R. A. Masons in this district.

The Grand Chapter of Victoria has for several years dominated and has appointed and elected Companions year after year to positions in their Grand Chapter, whilst we Canadians who from no fault of our own have been debarred throughout those years from ranking with those who had no more legitimate right than ourselves.

Now as the amalgamation of the Victorian and Canadian bodies here will take place in the very near future, we respectfully solicit the Grand Chapter which gave us birth and to which our sympathies will ever lean, even though we be identified with another constitution, to grant the favors that we ask, and which will be honored, prized and cherished by the recipients in fond remembrance of those Canadian Companions across the sea who bore our troubles, protected us in our hour of need, and who will congratulate us and fraternally recognize the body which we shall by our action legalize.

Every name submitted is borne by a Companion worthy of honor at the hands of Grand Chapter. They are identified with Canadian Masonry in this colony so closely that they appear to be looked upon as Canadians in very truth by the Companions of the Victorian constitution. Every man has been staunch to his colors, and especially the first seven have been the kernel of the nut, which has not been cracked. We would now submit the names and the honor we would wish conferred:

R. E. Comp. Joseph D. A. Drew, Sen., P. G. Supt., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. Joseph D. A. Drew, Jun., M. D., P. G. Supt., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Grand H.

R. E. Comp. Francis B. L. Gaffney, P. G. Supt., Duke of Albany Chapter, Past Grand H.

R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, P. G. P. S., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Grand H.

R. E. Comp. E. A. Collis, P. G. Supt., City of Melbourne Chapter, Past Grand H.

R. E. Comp. S. Dumont, P. G. P. S., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Grand H.

R. E. Comp. E. H. Williams, P. G. P. S., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Grand H.

E. Comp. W. Liddstone, Z., Murtoa Chapter, Past Grand 1st Assistant Sojourner.

E. Comp. G. T. Howard, Z., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Grand First Assistant Sojourner.

E. Comp. E. L. Oldfield, Z., Duke of Albany Chapter, Past Grand First Assistant Sojourner.

E. Comp. J. L. Wilson, Z., City of Melbourne Chapter, Past Grand 1st Assistant Sojourner.

E. Comp. W. Nicholls, H., City of Melbourne Chapter, Past Z.

E. Comp. D. Campbell, H., Duke of Albany Chapter, Past Z.

E. Comp. A. W. Brady, S. E., Kilwinning Chapter, Past Z.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

FRANCIS B. L. GAFFNEY,
Grand Superintendent Australian District.

Moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

CASH STATEMENTS.

M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, Grand Scribe E., submitted his annual cash statement of moneys received during the year, together with the books, etc., and the Grand Treasurer, R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, submitted his annual statement of receipts and disbursements with vouchers attached.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SCRIBE E.

To the M. E. Grand Z., Officers and Companions of Grand Chapter of Canada:

M. E. SIR AND COMPANION:—I beg to present to Grand Chapter my annual report, containing an account of all moneys received by me during the year, and paid over to the Grand Treasurer, being the returns of Subordinate Chapters to 30th June, 1895.

RECEIPTS.

		1894	
Certificates	\$ 836 00	Sept. 1, Pd. G. Treas. .	\$ 200 00
Dues	774 00	Oct. 17, " " " "	.. 8000 00
Fees	554 50	" " " " " "	.. 35 28
Dispensations	8 00	Nov. 30, " " " "	.. 77 75
Warrants	90 00	" " " " " "	.. 135 00
Constitutions	5 60	1895	
Debentures Paid	14000 00	Jan. 24, " " " "	.. 71 25
Toronto General Trust	142 50	" " " " " "	.. 1500 00
Landed Bank & Loan.	276 79	" 25, " " " "	.. 7 76
Western Canada Loan	101 25	" 29, " " " "	.. 4500 00
Interest on deposit....	316 55	May 31, " " " "	.. 238 80
Sundries	17 00	June 30, " " " "	.. 950 00
		July 4, " " " "	.. 330 00
		" " " " " "	.. 71 25
		" 9, " " " "	.. 650 00
		" 11, " " " "	.. 224 00
		" 12, " " " "	.. 131 10
\$17,122 19		\$17,122 19	

ANNUAL STATEMENT, 30TH JUNE, 1895.

T. SARGANT, G. S. E., IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND CHAPTER.

No. 1—An. Frontenac & Cataraqui.....\$ 27 80	“ 67—Enterprise..... 18 00
“ 3—St. John's..... 75 20	“ 68—Maitland 29 00
“ 4—S. An. & S. John. 52 60	“ 70—Grand River..... 15 60
“ 5—St. George's.... 42 10	“ 73—Erie..... 63 50
“ 6—St. John..... 60 60	“ 75—St. Clair..... 15 20
“ 15—Wawanosh..... 102 70	“ 76—Mt. Nebo..... 19 60
“ 16—Carleton..... 21 60	“ 77—Occident..... 35 80
“ 18—Oxford..... 17 50	“ 78—Minnewawa..... 24 80
“ 19—Mount Moriah... 32 40	“ 79—Orient..... 48 80
“ 20—Mount Horeb... 24 00	“ 80—Ark 16 70
“ 22—Grenville..... 16 40	“ 81—Aylmer..... 18 80
“ 23—Ezra..... 31 70	“ 82—Shuniah..... 14 07
“ 24—Tecumseh..... 53 50	“ 83—Ionic..... 39 80
“ 26—St. Mark's..... 25 40	“ 85—Exeter..... 14 10
“ 27—Manitou..... 14 40	“ 86—McPherson 4 20
“ 29—McCallum..... 28 20	“ 88—Macnabb..... 9 40
“ 31—Point Edward... 70 00	“ 90—Golden 12 20
“ 32—Waterloo..... 17 50	“ 91—Antiquity 61 40
“ 34—Signet..... 31 30	“ 92—Spry..... 9 00
“ 35—Keystone..... 12 60	“ 98—Vancouver..... 85 70
“ 36—Corinthian..... 29 10	“ 100—St. Lawrence... 17 00
“ 37—Victoria 18 60	“ 101—Boissevan 10 10
“ 38—Seymour..... 6 60	“ 102—Algonquin..... 12 90
“ 41—Mount Sinai..... 23 20	“ 103—St. John..... 14 80
“ 45—Excelsior..... 30 40	“ 104—White Oak..... 17 40
“ 46—St. James..... 10 70	“ 105—Signet..... 31 00
“ 47—Wellington..... 13 90	“ 106—Alberta..... 45 80
“ 48—St. John's..... 14 80	“ 110—Warkworth 56 80
“ 50—Saugeen..... 14 00	“ 111—Zeredatha..... 16 40
“ 52—Prince Rupert's.. 49 60	“ 112—St. John's..... 36 80
“ 53—Bruce 3 00	“ 113—Covenant..... 30 00
“ 54—Palestine 23 70	“ 115—Bonnechere..... 9 00
“ 55—Niagara 12 60	“ 116—Brant 72 80
“ 56—Georgian 56 50	U. D. Maple..... 36 80
“ 58—Pembroke 86 20	Ceremonies 18 40
“ 60—Doric..... 31 90	Debentures paid..... 14,000 00
“ 61—Granite..... 17 20	Toronto General Trusts.. 142 50
“ 62—York..... 21 50	Landed Banking & Loan
“ 64—Willson..... 61 80	Co..... 243 04
“ 65—St. Paul's..... 47 20	Western Can. Loan..... 101 25
“ 66—Malloch 1 00	Interest on Deposits.... 316 55
	\$17,122 19

NEW WARRANTS.

In accordance with the resolution of Grand Chapter, I had prepared and issued Warrants to the following Chapters:

Warkworth No. 110, Warkworth.
 Zeredatha No. 111, Morden, Man.
 St. John's No. 112, Morrisburg.
 Covenant No. 113, Farran's Point.
 Bonnechere No. 114, Renfrew.
 Brant No. 115, Paris.

WARRANTS TO REPLACE THOSE DESTROYED.

By instruction of the Most Ex. the Grand Z., I also issued new Warrants to the following Chapters:

Minnewawa No. 78, Parkhill.
 Enterprise No. 67, Harriston.
 Prince Rupert No. 52, Winnipeg.
 Signet No. 105, Winnipeg.

REVIVAL AND REMOVAL OF WARRANTS.

The Most Ex. Grand Z., in accordance to two applications from a large number of Brethren, directed the following dormant Warrants to be transferred:

Saugeen No. 56, formerly Walkerton, to Mitchell.
 Keystone No. 72, formerly St. Thomas, to Stirling.

GRAND RERREPRESENTATIVES.

The following Companions, upon the recommendation of the Most Ex. Grand Z., have been appointed Grand Representatives of foreign Grand Chapters near the Grand Chapter of Canada:

R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Kingston, for the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

R. E. Comp. Wm. Downie, Vancouver, for Grand Chapter of Minnesota, in place of R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, deceased.

R. E. Comp. L. A. Congdon, Dunnville, for the Grand Chapter of Maryland, in place of R. E. Comp. R. L. Patterson.

R. E. Comp. G. V. T. Greenhill, Galt, for the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, in place of R. E. Comp. J. Reynolds.

R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Toronto, for the Grand Chapter of Vermont.

R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, Toronto, for the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

R. E. Comp. B. Allan, Toronto, for the Grand Chapter of Maine.

Note.—The term of Representatives for Maryland, South Carolina, Vermont, Iowa and Maine being only for three years, according to their constitution, it was necessary that the appointment and reappointments be made.

Upon the recommendation of the M. E. Grand High Priest of the respective Grand Chapters, the following appointments have been made by the M. E. Grand Z., as our representatives:

E. Comp. Wm. G. Thirwell, N. Y., near the Grand Chapter of New York.

E. Comp. Geo. H. H. Hopper, Eau Claire, near the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin.

REVISION OF CHAPTER BY-LAWS.

The M. E. the Grand Z. has examined and approved of the following By-laws:

Sept. 10, 1894—Bonnechere Chapter, No. 114, Renfrew.

Nov. 10, “ —Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne.

Dec. 3, “ —Grand River Chapter, No. 70, Bracebridge

Dec. 30, “ —Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, Parkhill.

Feb. 26, 1895—St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London.

Feb. 26, “ —Zeredatha Chapter, No. 111, Morden, Man.

Apr. 15, “ —Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, Mattawa.

July 2, “ —Palestine Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas.

July 8, “ —Ark Chapter, No. 80, Windsor.

July 8, “ —King Solomon Chapter, No. 8, Toronto.

The M. E. Grand Z. has examined, revised and approved of amendments to the By-laws of the following Chapters:

Aug. 28, 1894—York, No. 62, Eglington.

Oct. 6, “ —King Solomon, No. 8, Toronto.

Oct. 6, “ —St. John's, No. 112, Morrisburg.

Dec. 15, “ —St. George's, No. 5, London.

Dec. 15, “ —Palestine, No. 54, St. Thomas.

Jan. 3, 1895—Vancouver, No. 98, Vancouver, B. C.

Jan. 3, “ —Ionic, No. 83, Orangeville.

March 1, " —Lebanon, No. 84, Wingham.
 March 1, " —Ark, No. 80, Windsor.
 June 19, " —Shuniah, No. 82, Port Arthur.

DISPENSATIONS.

By the instruction of the M. E. the Grand Z., I have issued the following dispensations:

- 3 In cases of fire until warrant was prepared.
- 3 To elect officers at other than the regular meeting.
- 4 To install officers at a special meeting.
- 5 To install H not having served as J.
- 4 To attend Divine Service.
- 1 To attend a conversazione in R. A. clothing.

OBITUARY.

Prominent amongst the Companions who have crossed the border line into eternity, we mention the following:

M. E. Comp. Fred. Joseph Menet, P. G. Z., Toronto.

R. E. Comp. James Moffatt, P. G. R., London.

R. E. Comp. Judge I. F. Toms, P. G. S., Goderich.

M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, P. G. Z., Belleville.

During the year the following notification of the decease of Companions in sister jurisdictions have been sent me:

M. E. Comp. Morris M. Kalz., P. G. H. P., North Carolina, 30th July, 1894.

M. E. Comp. Philip C. Tucker, P. G. H. P., Texas, 21st July, 1894.

M. E. Comp. Collins D. Pratt, P. G. H. P., South Dakota, 9th August, 1894.

M. E. Comp. Louis Watson, P. G. H. P., Illinois, 10th October, 1894.

R. E. Comp. Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, Connecticut, 15th October, 1894.

M. E. Comp. Dwight Byington, P. G. H. P., Kansas, 15th October, 1894.

M. E. Comp. Joseph A. Manning, G. H. P., Indiana, 27th October, 1894.

M. E. Comp. John Frizeil, P. G. H. P., Maryland, 10th December, 1894.

R. E. Comp. Stephen F. Chadwick, P. G. K., Oregon, 28th January, 1895.

M. E. Comp. Charles F. Goodman, P. G. H. P., Nebraska, 15th January, 1895.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Davidson, P. G. H. P., Delaware, 6th February, 1895.

M. E. Comp. Jacob H. Bellinger, P. G. H. P., Washington, 31st May, 1895.

E. Comp. Wm. Bryan Issacs, Grand Secretary.

E. Comp. Wm. H. H. Lynn, Grand Lecturer, Virginia, 22nd June, 1895.

Which were duly acknowledged by me conveying the sympathy of the Grand Chapter of Canada to our sister jurisdictions.

OPENING CHAPTERS.

By direction of the M. E. the Grand Z. I have personally performed the following work: On the 22nd November, 1894, assisted by M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, E. Comp. H. Fred Sharpe, and a large number of the Companions from St. James' Chapter, St. Marys, I organized Saugeen Chapter, No. 56, formerly Walkerton, at Mitchell, conferred the degrees upon a large number of Companions and installed their officers.

On the 10th December, 1894, assisted by the R. E. Comp. A. McGinnis, the officers and a number of the members of Moira Chapter, Belleville, the Grand Superintendent of P. E. District, R. E. Comp. Morden, and a number from Picton, we organized Keystone Chapter, No. 72, formerly St. Thomas, at Stirling. The Companions from Belleville conferring the degrees upon a large number of candidates. The Grand Superintendent then installed the officers and duly instructed them in their work.

CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

I have been present at the following Chapters: Toronto, Hamilton, Stratford. In the latter place I was one of the committee to make the presentation of the Testimonial to M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, P. G. Z., as instructed at last Convocation of Grand Chapter.

DUFFERIN CHAPTER U. D.

At the last meeting of the Grand Chapter, the Committee on Warrants recommended that the dispensation issued to Dufferin Chapter U. D. Carleton Place, be continued for another year on account of internal dissensions which had arisen since the organization, and that an effort be made to have the difficulty settled. Accordingly on the 13th August, by authority from the M. E., the Grand Z., I proceeded to Carleton Place, having previously notified the Ex. Z. to convene a special meeting for that purpose. Having with me all the papers which had been filed with me upon the subject, I then informed the Companions the object of my visit and what were my instructions. I gave them all an opportunity to state their case, and when they had done so, I enquired of the two Companions who seemed to wreck the Chapter, if they would not reconsider their actions and endeavor to work in harmony together. I found it was an utter impossibility to effect a settlement, consequently I withdrew the warrant, left the books and paraphernalia in custody with the First Principal, E. Comp. D. H. McIntosh, and reported to the M. E. Grand Z. Subsequently a new application was forwarded, signed by all but the two dissatisfied Companions, and a dispensation was issued under the name of Maple———. The officers were duly installed by V. E. Comp. J. B. McArthur, assisted by a number of Companions from Ottawa, a report of which I have duly received from V. E. Comp. McArthur.

From the return of the work done by Maple Chapter, U. D., I am satisfied that the action was judicious, as they have now a good energetic Chapter in that locality, whereas under the old dispensation it would have been a disastrous failure.

MEMBERSHIP.

Number of initiations during the year.....	674
Affiliations.....	40
Restorations.....	17

Year.	Day.	Mont.	Date.	Hour.	Chapter.	No.	Place.	Occasion of visit.	No. of Visits.
1894	Wed...	Oct...	3	7 p.m.	King Solomon...	8	Toronto	Work in R. A.	1
"	Mon...	"	8	7 p.m.	Occident...	77	"	" M. E. M.	2
"	Wed...	"	10	7 p.m.	St. Paul's...	65	"	" M. M. M.	3
"	Mon...	"	15	7 p.m.	Antiquity...	91	"	" R. A.	4
"	Fri...	"	19	7 p.m.	St. A. & St. J...	4	"	" M. M. M.	5
"	Tu...	"	23	7 p.m.	Victoria...	23	Port Hope	" R. A.	6
"	Mon...	"	29	7 p.m.	{ The Hiram...	2	{ Hamilton	" M. M., M. E. M.	7
"	Thu...	Nov...	1	7 p.m.	{ St. John's...	6	{	" R. A.	8
"	Fri...	"	2	7 p.m.	Niagara...	55	Niagara	"	9
"	Mon...	"	5	7 p.m.	Mount Nebo...	76	Niagara Falls	"	10
"	Tu...	"	6	7 p.m.	Wilson...	64	Welland	" R. A.	11
"	Wed...	"	7	7 p.m.	McCallum...	29	Dunnville	" M. M.	12
"	Thu...	"	8	7 p.m.	King Hiram...	57	Port Colborne	"	13
"	Fri...	"	9	7 p.m.	Palestine...	23	St. Thomas	"	14
"	Mon...	"	12	7 p.m.	St. Clair...	75	Milton	" M. M.	15
"	Wed...	"	14	7 p.m.	Waterloo...	32	Galt	" M. M.	16
"	Thu...	"	15	7 p.m.	Brant...	116	Paris	" M. M.	17
"	Fri...	"	16	7 p.m.	Harris...	41	Ingersoll	" R. A.	18
"	Mon...	"	19	7 p.m.	{ St. John's...	3	{ London	Chapter of Instruction	19
"	Tu...	"	20	7 p.m.	{ St. George's...	5	{	"	20
"	Wed...	"	21	7 p.m.	Mt. Horeb...	20	Brantford	Work in M. M.	21
"	Fri...	"	23	7 p.m.	Aylmer...	81	Aylmer	" R. A.	22
"	Mon...	"	23	7 p.m.	Erie...	73	Ridgetown	"	23
"	Tu...	"	23	7 p.m.	Macnabb...	88	Dresden	" R. A.	24

OFFICIAL VISITS OF M. E. COMP. J. ROSS ROBERTSON, GRAND Z., 1894-5—Continued.

Year.	Day.	Mont.	Date.	Hour.	Chapter.	No.	Place.	Occasion of Visit.	Visit of N.
..	Mon....	Nov..	26	7 p.m.	Prince of Wales....	71	Anherstburg...	Work in M. M.	25
..	Tu.....	"	27	7 p.m.	Ark.....	80	Windsor	Chapter of Instruction	26
..	Wed....	"	28	7 p.m.	Wawaunosh.....	15	Sarnia.....	Work in R. A.	27
..	Thu....	"	29	7 p.m.	Bruce	53	Petrolia.....	"	28
..	Mon....	Dec..	3	7 p.m.	Doric.....	60	Newmarket	Work in R. A.	29
..	Tu.....	"	4	7 p.m.	Tecumseh	24	Stratford.....	" R. A.	30
..	Wed....	"	5	7 p.m.	Signet.....	79	Barrie.....	Chapter of Instruction	31
..	Mon....	"	10	7 p.m.	Corinthian.....	36	Peterboro'	M. M., M.E.M., R.A.	32
..	Tu.....	"	11	7 p.m.	Keystone.....	35	Whitby	Work in R. A.	33
..	Wed....	"	12	7 p.m.	Midland	94	Lindsay.....	"	34
..	Fri.....	"	14	7 p.m.	Pentalpha	28	Oshawa.....	"	35
..	Mon....	"	17	7 p.m.	Oxford	18	Woodstock.....	" R. A.	36
..	Tu.....	"	18	7 p.m.	White Oak.....	104	Oakville.....	Chapter of Instruction	37
..	Wed....	"	19	7 p.m.	Ionic.....	83	Orangeville.....	Work	38
..	Fri.....	"	21	7 p.m.	St. John's.....	43	Cobourg.....	"	39
1895	Thu....	Jan..	3	7 p.m.	Excelsior.....	45	Colborne.....	" R. A.	40
"	Fri.....	"	4	7 p.m.	King Solomon.....	8	Toronto.....	Chapter of Instruction	41
..	Tu.....	"	8	7 p.m.	Prince Edward.....	31	Pictou.....	Work	42
..	Wed....	"	9	7 p.m.	Moir.....	7	Belleville.....	Chapter of Instruction	43
..	Thu....	"	10	7 p.m.	Hount Sinai.....	41	Napanee.....	Work	44
..	Fri.....	"	11	7 p.m.	An. Fron. & Catarag	1	Kingston.....	Chapter of Instruction	45
"	Mon....	"	14	2 p.m.	Maitland.....	68	N. Augusta.....	Work	46
..	Mon....	"	14	7 p.m.	Grenville.....	22	Prescott.....	"	47
"	Tu.....	"	15	7 p.m.	Covenant.....	113	Farran's Point..	"	48

..	Wed...	16	7 p.m.	St. John's	112	Morrisburg.....	49
..	Thu....	17	7 p.m.	{ Sussex	59	} Brockville.....	50
..	Mon....	21	7 p.m.	{ St. Lawrence.....	100	Chapter of Instruction	51
..	Tu....	22	7 p.m.	Grand River.....	70	Work	52
..	Wed....	23	7 p.m.	St. John's.....	103	Bracebridge.....	53
..	Thu....	24	7 p.m.	Pembroke.....	58	North Bay.....	54
..	Fri....	25	7 p.m.	Bonnechere.....	115	Chapter of Instruction	55
..	Tu....	29	7 p.m.	Granite.....	61	Work	56
..	Wed....	30	7 p.m.	Havelock.....	63	Chapter of Instruction	57
..	Thu....	31	7 p.m.	Lebanon.....	84	Work in M. M.	58
..	Fri....	1	7 p.m.	Huron.....	30	..	59
..	Mon....	4	7 p.m.	Exeter.....	85	.. R. A.	60
..	Tu....	5	7 p.m.	Seymour.....	38	..	61
..	Wed....	6	7 p.m.	Saugeen.....	56	.. R. A.	62
..	Thu....	7	7 p.m.	Tecumseh.....	24	..	63
..	Mon....	22	7 p.m.	York.....	62	Chapter of Instruction	64
..	Tue....	23	7 p.m.	Grimsby.....	69	Work in M. M.	65
..	Thu....	25	7 p.m.	Mount Moriah.....	19	..	66
..	Fri....	26	7 p.m.	Orient.....	79	St. Catharines.....	67
..	Mon....	29	7 p.m.	Spry.....	92	Toronto.....	68
..	Wed....	1	7 p.m.	St. James.....	46	Alliston.....	69
..	Thu....	2	7 p.m.	Georgian.....	56	St. Mary's.....	70
..	Fri....	3	7 p.m.	Macpherson.....	86	..	71
..	Wed....	8	7 p.m.	Collingwood.....	27	Meaford.....	72
..	Thu....	9	7 p.m.	Erie.....	73	Collingwood.....	73
..	Fri....	10	7 p.m.	Wellington.....	47	Ridgetown.....	74
..	Tu....	14	7 p.m.	Guelph.....	40	Chapter of Instruction	75
..	Wed....	15	7 p.m.	The Malloch.....	66	Work	76
..	Fri....	17	7 p.m.	Minnewawa.....	78	..	77
..				Carleton.....	16	Parkhill.....	78
..						Ottawa.....	

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. SARGANT,

G. S. E.

HUGH MURRAY, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND
CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

1894.

Dr.

July 14.	To balance as per statement at this date.....	\$4708 67
Sept. 1.	“ Grand Scribe E.....	200 00
Oct. 17.	“ “ “.....	8000 00
Nov. 30.	“ “ “.....	35 28
Dec. 28.	“ “ “ interest on Bank account..	77 75
“ “ “	“ “ “.....	135 00

1895.

Jan. 24.	“ “ “.....	71 25
“ “ “	“ “ “.....	1500 00
“ 25.	“ “ “.....	7 76
“ 29.	“ “ “.....	4500 00
May 31.	“ “ “ interest on Bank account..	238 80
June 30.	“ “ “.....	950 00
July 4.	“ “ “.....	330 00
“ “ “	“ “ “.....	71 25
“ 10.	“ “ “.....	650 00
“ 12.	“ “ “.....	224 00
“ 13.	“ “ “.....	131 10

 \$21,830 86

1894

Cr.

July 31.	By Order 633, G. S. E. bal. of incidentals....	\$ 11 27
“ “	“ 630, “ advance on incidentals.....	75 00
“ “	“ 636, M. E. C. Harding, 1893-94....	149 60
“ “	“ 635, Hunter, Rose & Co., Printing...	29 25
“ “	“ 634, Copp, Clark & Co., Warrants...	27 50
Aug. 31.	“ 632, Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates	60 00
“ “	“ 645, Mrs. W. B. Wallace.....	15 00
“ “	“ 631, M. E. C., H. Robertson, For. Cor.	50 00
“ “	“ 647, Mrs. John Vaux.....	10 00
“ “	“ 641, Comp. Arch. Cooper.....	25 00
“ “	“ 637, Mrs. S. H. Blondheim.....	15 00
“ “	“ 640, Mrs. S. Waltho.....	15 00
“ “	“ 646, Mrs. F. Bartlett.....	10 00
“ “	“ 648, Comp. John Munro.....	20 00
“ “	“ 649, Mrs. T. D. Harington.....	20 00
“ “	“ 642, Orphans of Comp. M. McPhail..	20 00
“ “	“ 643, Mother Comp. Donald McLeod..	10 00
“ “	“ 639, Children Comp. J. G. Burns....	15 00
“ “	“ 651, Mrs. Wm. McCadden.....	10 00
“ “	“ 644, Mrs. Robt. Ramsay.....	15 00
“ “	“ 638, Mrs. John Munro.....	5 00
Oct. 31	“ 652, Grand Scribe E's salary.....	175 00
“ “	“ 654, Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates	102 00
“ “	“ 655, Copp, Clark & Co., Warrants...	41 25
“ “	“ 656, Comp. W. W. Summers, Tyler..	5 00
“ “	“ 657, A. McPherson, Proceedings, etc.	285 35
“ “	“ 653, Grand Treasurer's salary.....	12 50
“ “	“ 650, Mrs. W. B. Simpson.....	20 00

Dec. 31	"	658, Rolph, Smith & Co. Printing, etc.	15 50
"	"	660, G. S. E., instituting Chapters...	27 00
"	"	663, S. J. Sargant, part of testimonial to M. E. C. Harding.....	40 00
"	"	661, G. S. E. Salary.....	175 00
"	"	662, Grand Treasurer's salary.....	12 50
1895			
Jan. 31.	"	676, Mrs. T. D. Harington	20 00
"	"	659, D. Henderson, eng. Warrants..	44 00
"	"	667, Mrs. S. Waltho,.....	15 00
"	"	668, Comp. Archibald Cooper.....	25 00
"	"	672, Mrs. W. B. Wallace,.....	15 00
"	"	665, Children Comp. J. G. Burns....	15 00
Feb. 28.	"	670, Mrs. D. McLeod.....	10 00
"	"	669, Orphans of Comp. M. McPhail..	20 00
"	"	675, Comp. John Munro.....	20 00
"	"	674, Mrs. John Vaux.....	10 00
"	"	671, Comp. R. Ramsay.....	15 00
"	"	679, M.E. Comp. Harding, testimonial	200 00
"	"	678, Mrs. W. McCadden.....	10 00
"	"	673, Mrs. F. Bartlett,.....	10 00
March 31.	"	— Mrs. W. B. Simpson.....	20 00
"	"	665, Mrs. John Munro.....	5 00
"	"	680, Grand Scribe E's salary.....	175 00
"	"	682, M. E. Comp. Harding, Address..	11 00
April 30.	"	681, Grand Treasurer's salary.....	12 50
May 31.	"	684, Hunter, Rose & Co., Ceremonies	96 25
June 20.	"	685, Grand Scribe E's salary.....	175 00
"	"	686, Grand Treasurer's salary.....	12 50
"	"	683. removing safe from Masonic Hall	10 00

\$2464 97

STATEMENT OF ASSETS OF GRAND CHAPTER AT 13 JULY, 1895.

Bond, Toronto General Trust Co. at 4½ %.....	\$ 3,000 00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	19,365 89

\$22,365 89

CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

HAMILTON, 13th JULY, 1895.

We hereby certify that the above named bond is in the custody of this Bank for safe keeping on account of Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, and that the balance at the credit of the said Hugh Murray as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, on the books of the Bank, at the close of business at this date is nineteen thousand, three hundred and sixty-five dollars and eighty-nine cents (\$19,365.89.)

WM. ROBERTS, *Manager*.A. J. L. TRIGGE, *Accountant*.

Bond.....\$ 3,000 00

Cash.....19,365 89

Fraternally submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid. and

Resolved, That the annual statement of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit and report thereon at the present Convocation.

R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of the Committee, which on motion of R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the Proceedings.

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh submitted the following resolution as having been passed in the Executive Committee :

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, seconded by M. E. Comp. D. Ross, and adopted, That the Executive Committee desire to express their thanks to M. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, who has filled the position of Chairman of Foreign Correspondence for so many years.

Letters of regret were read from R. E. Comp. E. A. Morden, Grand Superintendent of the Prince Edward District, and V. E. Comp. A. R. K. Macdonald, Grand Pursuivant, expressing their regret of their inability to be present at this Convocation of Grand Chapter.

RECEPTION OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following Companions presented their credentials as Representatives :

R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Kingston, for the Grand Chapter of Connecticut.

R. E. Comp. L. A. Congdon, Dunnville, for the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

R. E. Comp. G. V. T. Greenhill, Galt, for the Grand Chapter of South Carolina.

R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Toronto, for the Grand Chapter of Vermont.

R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, Toronto, for the Grand Chapter of Iowa.

R. E. Comp. B. Allen, Toronto, for the Grand Chapter of Maine.

Which the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to receive and accept, and the R. E. Comps. were received with Masonic honors.

The Executive Committee presented their report on

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report that they have examined the books, vouchers, etc., of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, to the 30th June, 1895, and find them perfectly correct.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand last year.....	\$ 4708 67
Certificates.....	836 00
Dues.....	774 00
Fees.....	554 50
Dispensations.....	8 00
Warrants.....	90 00
Constitutions.....	5 60
Debentures paid.....	14000 00
Toronto General Trusts Co.....	142 50
Landed Banking & Loan Co.....	276 79
Western Canada Loan Co.....	101 25
Interest on Deposits.....	316 55
Sundries.....	17 00

DISBURSEMENTS. \$21,830 86

Grants for Benevolence.....	\$ 435 00
Salary Grand Scribe E.....	700 00
“ “ Treasurer.....	50 00
G. S. E., balance of incidentals.....	11 27
“ advance “.....	75 00
Grand Z.'s expenses.....	149 60
H. Robertson, Foreign Correspondence.....	50 00
Hunter, Rose & Co, Printing.....	29 25
Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates, etc.....	177 50
Copp, Clark & Co., Warrants.....	68 75
W. W. Summers, Tyler.....	5 00
A. McPherson, Proceedings.....	285 35
Testimonial to M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding.....	240 00
Address to “ “ “.....	11 00
D. Henderson, Engrossing Warrants.....	44 00
Hunter, Rose & Co., Ceremonies.....	96 25
Removing Safe from Masonic Hall.....	10 00
Grand S. E., Instituting Chapters.....	27 00
Balance on hand.....	19365 89

\$21,830 86

ASSETS.

Bond, Toronto General Trusts Co., 4½%.....	\$ 3000 00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	19365 89

\$22,365 89

LIABILITIES.

Foreign Correspondence.....	\$ 50 00
Grand Z's expenses.....	250 00
Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates.....	40 70
Hunter, Rose & Co., Printing.....	26 50
Grand Scribe E., balance of incidentals.....	10 24
Grand Scribe E., advance.....	100 00
Printing, Postage and Telegrams, Grand Z.....	25 75

\$503 24

Your Committee recommend that the M. E. Grand Z., Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe E. invest in behalf of Grand Chapter \$17,000 in municipal and county bonds.

Would also express our pleasure at the manner in which the recommendation of last year re the endorsation of cheques by the beneficiaries was complied with as requested.

Your Committee are pleased to report the very gratifying showing of the finances, the balance in hand being an increase of about \$600 over that last year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. SHAW,
Chairman.

Moved by R. E. Comp M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

In the capacity of overseers your Committee have had presented for inspection sixteen specimens of work which, taken in the aggregate, may be permitted to pass, but examined singly would in solitary cases be open to rejection.

The thoughtless alacrity with which some Companions accept and don the responsibilities of an inspecting

officer is only equalled by the easy indifference they display while bearing the honors. They seem to forget that they are, in a manner, physicians who have assumed a practice in which there are sick to be nursed to health, as well as the healthy to be encouraged. To some the objectionable feature of their passing reign is the duty of visiting, and, if it has to be done at all, the evil day is put off until the patient is beyond recovery. The negligence is all the more culpable when the condition of their territory is made known to them by previous reports, and a plea of ignorance of the situation cannot therefore be reasonably advanced.

The previous year's Superintendent of one district reported a Chapter in a deplorably weak and dying condition, but his successor held office for nine months before he made up his mind to visit it, and he was probably impelled to do so then only by reason of the Grand Z.'s journeying in that direction. When they arrived there was not a quorum to greet them, and now the Superintendent calmly advises that the Chapter be removed from the list. What the result would have been if that officer had rolled up his sleeves and gone into the work with enthusiastic promptitude must be left to speculation. Meantime there is a funeral announced in his district.

If in the vocabulary of the Grand Superintendent there is one word which more than all others should blaze in front of him, a guiding star to his path of duty, it is vigilance. This review would be unnecessary were the entire sixteen district representatives to live up to the promise they voluntarily made at the outset of their official term. Their own reports would then set out in ample detail the good work that had been effected, and the condition of Capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction would need no other herald.

It will be familiar to all that it is "in accordance with requirements of the Constitution" that a report is indited just prior to Grand Chapter Convocation, but the frequency with which constitutional requirements in other respects are ignored during the earlier periods, is where lies all the trouble. Year after year it has been pointed out through the medium of this annual review, that

to maintain an abiding interest in the work of the private Chapters the superintending care should never relax. It does not necessarily follow that visitations ought to be frequent, although in some cases they could not happen too often, but when the Superintendent remains an utter stranger to a Chapter by correspondence or otherwise, for six, eight or more months after his installation, it will be admitted that there is a basis for grumbling.

A letter of enquiry occasionally would entail little less trouble and less expense, but the pleasant knowledge to a Chapter that it was a subject of consideration by the Superintendent must naturally create in the Companions a desire to be worthy of that officer's good opinion. On the other hand, the impression that they are forgotten or ignored is calculated to give birth to inattention and carelessness, a growth that cannot be uprooted subsequently by ephemeral bursts of enthusiasm.

The demands of business and the inability to afford the time or outlay for travel are occasionally submitted as valid excuses for inattention to Masonic duty. All of which may be true enough. It was never intended or expected that Masonry should interfere with a man's business or domestic arrangements, much less was it ever conceived that he should sacrifice that for Masonry which would otherwise be devoted to his family's comfort, but as such contingencies must have entered into the calculations of the Companion when he solemnly undertook to carry out certain duties, it cannot be expected that this Committee can take them into theirs now and accept them as pleas for a non performance of them.

The reports before your Committee are of the usual variety, good, bad and indifferent. Visitations, it is true, have been made, but there is a disposition sometimes to lay on the "taffy" a little too thickly. Blemishes that may have exhibited themselves in the rendition of the work are effectually concealed under a broad mantle of hospitality that pleasantly shrouded the tail end of the evening.

Sometimes the struggle between duty and friendship is ludicrous. Take for instance the following ex-

tract: "Whilst this Chapter has among its members a number of Companions who are enthusiastic Masons and anxious to further the best interests of the Chapter, yet there is evidently a great deal lacking to make it successful. Considerable difficulty is experienced in getting a sufficient number of members together to work the Chapter."

So enthusiastic are they, and so anxious are they to further the Chapter that they stay away from it. This reminds us of Archbishop Whateley's definition of a "good Protestant," "a man who hates the Pope and never goes to church."

A few of the inspecting officers are lamentably slack in furnishing information. Some working upon old lines are prolific with statistics furnished at the end of the year by the Chapters. The majority are silent in giving effect to their observations of the working of recent legislation, and in a solitary instance a Superintendent is discovered who says too much.

The latter ventures to express the regret of his district at a recent enactment of Grand Chapter in the matter of ritual amendment, overlooking the fact that when appointed he undertook to see its provisions carried out and not to voice objections against them.

From several of the reports it is gathered that much good has been done. The Superintendents themselves have been active and assiduous, and their zeal is reflected in the progress of the Chapters under their care. The many visits of the Grand Z., and the frequent Chapters of Instruction held under his guidance have aided materially to this happy result. To these also may be attributed in a great measure the increased desire for uniformity in working, and the emulation that will undoubtedly work beneficially in the future.

A glance at the reports will show how the labor of superintendence has been carried on.

Of the active Chapters in the St. Clair District one was unvisited, because during the latter portion of his year of office, the Superintendent was "obliged to devote all of his time and attention to business and neglect entirely his Masonic duties." Well, open con-

fession is good for the soul, they say, but it is a pity that Wellington Chapter did not have the benefit of his presence during the earlier portion of his year of office. The Chapters at Ridgetown, Windsor and Dresden, are active and progressing, while that at Amherstburg is in limp condition. The Superintendent is opposed to planting Chapters in small towns and villages, where from lack of material the membership becomes apathetic.

A very fair report is that from the London District. All the seven Chapters were visited and considerable strength added. Beaver Chapter, Strathroy, which suffered under a fatal apathy in last report, has since given up the ghost. The Chapters at Petrolia and Parkhill which for a long period displayed threatening symptoms are reported as having experienced an infusion of new life and are doing well.

Including the new Chapter at Paris, the five Chapters in the Wilson District are doing well. All were visited by the Superintendent who in a scanty report speaks encouragingly of each, opening with an assurance of harmony and good work, and closing with a tribute to "the sociability and brotherly feeling that characterized all the Convocations."

The Superintendent of the Wellington District succeeded in visiting all of the five good working Chapters in his care, except that at Galt, which unfortunately called off "in the forepart of the summer." If this is intended for last summer it was certainly premature on the part of the Chapter, and unkind to the Superintendent, whose remarkably brief report might otherwise have been extended a further couple of lines. If the present season is meant, then it is in order to ask, What was the matter with the hind part of last winter?

Hamilton District comprises four Chapters, all of which according to the Superintendent are in good working order. He reports for each an addition to the membership and everything is harmonious. The Superintendent's personal supervision was commendable, and the story of his visitations includes much useful information. He notices with regret a perceptible falling away in the attendance of Past Z's. of the city Chapters. The request that the rank of Past Z. be conferred upon

Comp. W. J. McAllister, in recognition of his many years faithful devotion to the Royal Craft is cordially endorsed by your Committee, who hereby recommend Grand Chapter to accede to it.

A very complete report is furnished by the Superintendent of the Huron District which now boasts of eight Chapters, all of which were visited. Most of them are doing good steady work, and while one or two are not particularly active, the outlook is most promising. Especially is this the case in the Chapter at St. Marys, which for such a long period was in a state of coma. He also reports a bright future for Saugeen Chapter recently transferred from Walkerton to Mitchell.

From Niagara District the tidings are not so encouraging. One Chapter out of the seven has collapsed, viz: King Hiram at Port Colborne, and its charter surrendered. While another, that at Grimsby, has failed to convene, and has failed to elect officers for two or three years. The Chapter in Niagara is weak in members but has a substantial balance, and a Scribe E., which entitle it to consideration. The Superintendent thinks the outlook for the district is hopeful. His report, though lacking in details, is not uninteresting.

From the Toronto District a readable report is invariably expected. The Superintendent was assiduous in visitation so far as the city Chapters went, and furnishes a good account of the work accomplished. The one outside Chapter, that at Newmarket, did not receive the benefit of a visit owing to the Superintendent's business engagements. All the Chapters are progressing.

Georgian District does not contribute lavishly to the general advance, and the Superintendent's report is compiled on the same lines. Business engagements unhappily interfered with his good intentions and he was unable to visit all the Chapters. He recommends extinction for the Chapter at Alliston, which the Companions there are unable to keep alive, and a similar fate seems to await the one at Meaford where it is difficult to secure a meeting. He had arranged to visit the Chapter at Owen Sound just a month ago, but he learned that the Companions there were enjoying a day off; and he did not visit Barrie officially because he had

an intimate acquaintance with that Chapter and could testify to its excellence. North Bay, had unfortunately a municipal election on the day he selected for his visit, and he had his long journey for nothing, but he succeeded in having an evening with the Bracebridge Companions, and visited his own Chapter in Collingwood. He reports a good increase in membership in the district.

An instructive report is sent in from Ontario District. The Superintendent visited seven out of the eight Chapters, and generally seems to have done his whole duty. The Chapter not visited was Whitby, but he witnessed the work of its officers at Oshawa. He reports the district as being active, prosperous and enthusiastic. The new Chapter at Warkworth surprised him by the excellence of its work.

Another commendable report is that from Prince Edward District where there are now five active Chapters, the last being Keystone transferred to Stirling from St. Thomas. The Superintendent visited all or nearly so, his journey to Napanee on the 16th May proving abortive for want of a quorum. He reports very properly refusing to install a First Principal elect owing to the Examining Board being unable to furnish the qualifying certificate.

The report from Central District is voluminous and interesting. Numerically, the district is the largest, embracing twelve Chapters all of which were dutifully visited. The new Chapters at Farran's Point, Morrisburg, and Renfrew promises well, while the reconstructed Chapter U. D. at Carleton Place having undergone the weeding out process, and taken a new name, bids fair to live long and happily. The Superintendent proved himself a painstaking zealous officer, and neither spared himself in covering the territory entrusted to him, nor the paper and ink in recording his official acts. His recommendation for a division of the district is worthy of consideration by Grand Chapter.

In remarkable contrast to the above report is that from the Algoma District. A dozen words or so suffices for the Superintendent who omits to state whether he visited any of the Chapters in his district. He gives the impression that he is aware of but three, two of

which, he says, are doing well, viz., those at Port Arthur and Sault Ste. Marie. He "fears" the other at Rat Portage is in anything but a prosperous condition. There is a fourth Chapter in the district of which the Superintendent appears to be in blissful ignorance, viz., Tuscan at Sudbury. There is nothing to hand to indicate whether it is living or dead.

Manitoba's Superintendent furnishes a report which appears to have been compiled "from information received." Although he closes with an expression of deep regret that he has not been able to visit "more" of the Chapters, there is nothing in his report to indicate that he visited any. It may be presumed, however, that the Chapters in Winnipeg and possibly others within easy distance enjoyed his presence. He nevertheless reports well of all, and speaks hopefully of the future.

The solitary Chapter in British Columbia is apparently there to stay, and the Superintendent speaks of it in glowing terms. He gives hope of another being instituted shortly at New Westminster, but what is especially gratifying is his report of the fraternal feeling existing between the Companions of the Scottish register and our own in Victoria, which has taken the shape of an exchange of visits and may result in bringing about a union.

Of vastly important interest is the report, probably the last, from our zealous Superintendent in Australia. All the Chapters, with the exception of "Citizens," which appears to have never been properly established, are doing well and in the care of worthy Companions. Duke of Albany Chapter made a record of forty exaltations within eighteen months, and a number of propositions in hands. The other Chapters, if not so busy, are reported as progressive. It is most pleasing to be able to note these facts on the eve of an important epoch in their history. In a few days, and on terms eminently satisfactory to our Companions, the Canadian Chapters will be absorbed into the Grand Chapter of Victoria, and their allegiance to this Grand Chapter will of course cease. The recognition and justice so long denied has been accorded, and a union based on conditions satisfactory to both sides has been effected. The

issue of charters from Canada gave an impetus to Royal Arch Masonry in the Colony of Victoria, which it never enjoyed before. Their existence originated the Grand Chapter there, and the opposition of the latter body to the Canadian Companions compelled the further issuance of charters to a territory still claimed by Canada as unoccupied. The zeal and persistence of the Companions under the Canadian warrants at last brought the Victorian Companions to a realization of the gravity of the breach, the olive branch so often advanced and as often rejected, was finally accepted, and the conditions submitted by the Canadian Companions as to retention of Chapters and rank were amicably agreed to. Thus through the action of this Grand Chapter in coming to the aid of our neglected Companions at the Antipodes, will be found a Grand Chapter, which for strength and earnestness will certainly not be equalled in that division of the globe.

Although the reports, as a whole, are barren of suggestion, a thought occurs to a Superintendent occasionally which he ventures to reproduce in black and white.

One Companion points out that the accuracy and general excellence in one of the Chapters in his district is due to the First Principal's rule of periodical rehearsals.

Another opportunely calls attention to the lack of suitable proficiency before advancement, and is of opinion that subsequent neglect may in many cases be traced to this cause.

Want of promptitude in dealing with Companions in arrears is offered by another, as a fruitful source of inattention.

And in a couple of instances the Superintendents direct attention to the sad condition of neglect into which the old observance of recording the Mark has fallen.

From the data furnished your committee there is room for congratulation. We have increased in numbers, and there is every reason to believe that we have not deteriorated in quality.

The desire to be informed as to the effect, beneficial

or otherwise, of the reduction in the minimum fee cannot be gratified, the superintending officers being strangely unanimous in their avoidance of that topic.

The few somnolent Chapters reported are favorably offset by the reports of awakening in others, and the desire of the Chapter officers generally to reach perfection in the working, is a hopeful indication of continued interest. In this connection it seems strange that the Companions of an old Chapter like that at Oshawa should conceive it to be the duty of the Grand Superintendent when visiting to assume the chair and work the degrees. As well might they expect him to bring the refreshments along also.

It should be the aim of every Companion to maintain his own station in the Chapter. If Capitular Masonry is to take that place which its importance and dignity demands, it will be because each member recognizes his individual responsibility to the Royal Craft and so comports himself as not to degrade it.

We are all surely journeying towards a knowledge of the greatest of all mysteries. Companions with whom we have labored side by side during the year have attained it. Grand Chapter generally, and the Toronto District in particular experienced a bereavement in the death of M. E. Comp. Fred J. Menet, Past Grand Z., while in the west a devoted worker has passed away in the person of R. E. Comp. Judge Toms, of Goderich.

The lessons of the Royal Craft will help us to do our duty faithfully if we are mindful. How easy it is for trivial matters of fleeting prominence or passing honors to cloud our memories and blot for a moment the recollection of the tie that irrevocably binds us to each worthy Companion.

“ Do we boldly defend him in peril,
And lift from him poverty's curse,
Does the promise of aid which we willingly made,
Reach down from our lips to our purse? ”

Companions, it should have been our life's aim to protect the sanctuary from everything that tends to

make outside communication objectionable. We enjoy a great privilege, but we do not quite realize its value.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. J. BENNETT,
Chairman.

Moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS.

To the M. E. Grand Z., Officers and Companions of Grand Chapter of Canada:

The Executive Committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand Z., having carefully considered the same, beg leave to submit the following report:

Your Committee desires to congratulate the M. E. Grand Z., as well as the Grand Chapter over which he so ably presides, on the vast amount of work that he has been able to perform during the year. The visiting of 77 of the 88 Chapters on our roll must have entailed a great amount of labor and expense. Visitation by the supreme officer is always calculated to inspire enthusiasm, and is invariably followed by renewed interest on the part of the members. We are pleased to note that the Grand Superintendents have assisted the M. E. Grand Z. so materially. Doubtless their reports will show in detail the results of their combined efforts.

It is to be hoped that the Chapters which have been specially mentioned for their proficiency in the work will be incited to do everything in their power to retain the high character that has been given them, while those which have been mentioned as apathetic and declining should be induced to put forth renewed efforts to attain to the standard of excellence occupied by their more active compeers.

The condition of the Chapters as a whole is one that certainly calls for an expression of gratification on the part of your Committee, and we cordially agree with the M. E. Grand Z. that there is every reason for

congratulation on the state of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction. Your Committee agree with the M. E. Grand Z., that great care should be exercised in granting dispensations for the formation of new Chapters, and that no warrant should be transferred from one locality to another unless the very best reasons can be given for such transfer.

Your Committee cordially agrees with the M. E. Grand Z. in his remarks in reference "to the reduction of our fees" and "difficulties that we have to contend with." We feel assured that the merits of the Royal Arch will always be sufficiently appreciated to induce those members of the Craft, who are really actuated by a desire for knowledge, to seek admission to our mysteries, and in the future, as in the past, the Masonic student will consider the Royal Arch Chapter as the ne plus ultra of Freemasonry, the completion and perfection of that knowledge which he began to acquire on the evening of his initiation. Your Committee agrees with the M. E. Grand Z. as to the advisability of appointing a Grand Lecturer. The experiment has been tried by many of our sister Grand Chapters and always with the very best results.

The proper investment of our funds is of the very greatest importance, and we entirely agree with the M. E. Grand Z. that in making investments safety should be the first consideration.

Your Committee is gratified to know that so many Chapters of Instruction have been held during the year. The fact that these were held under the personal supervision of the M. E. the Grand Z. must be a source of great gratification to Grand Chapter.

The union of our Chapters in Australia with the Grand Chapter of Victoria, if consummated on a satisfactory basis, is a matter that would be considered with much satisfaction by your Committee.

The proposal to change the time of holding the annual Convocation is a matter of the greatest importance, and Grand Chapter should give it very careful consideration.

The interchange of representatives with our sister

Grand Chapters is intended to draw closer the fraternal ties with which we are already bound and forms a valuable medium for communication on matters of interest arising between the different Grand Bodies. In the opinion of your Committee it would be a mistake to abolish Grand Representatives.

Your Committee agrees with the M. E. Grand Z. that the marks selected by Companions should be Masonic in character, and trust that the practice of selecting heraldic signs and coats of arms will be discontinued.

Your Committee recommends that the action of the M. E. Grand Z. re Carleton Chapter, and his rulings as to "the exemplification of foreign work" and "the Past Master's degree," be confirmed by Grand Chapter.

In conclusion, your Committee are satisfied they express the sentiments of Grand Chapter in placing on record their high appreciation of the valuable services of the M. E. Grand Z. His zeal for the interests of the Royal Craft and the untiring energy displayed in the discharge of his duties have given us an example that we may well try to follow. May he long be spared as a member of the Royal Craft, which he has so worthily represented during the past year.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOHN E. HARDING,
Chairman.

Moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be received and adopted.

WARRANTS.

To the M. E. Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

Your Committee on Warrants beg to report as follows :

Application has been received from Maple Royal Arch Chapter, U. D.

This application is in place of Dufferin Chapter U. D., reported upon at last Convocation and recommended

to be held over on account of dissensions. It appears from the report of the Grand Scribe E., who was deputed by the most Ex. Grand Z. to proceed to Carleton Place and endeavor to heal the differences, that it was an utter impossibility to do so, consequently he withdrew the dispensation issued to Dufferin R. A. Chapter, U. D. A short time after another application was received signed by all the Companions of Dufferin with the exception of the two that it was not desirable to include in the membership and the Most Ex. Grand Z. caused a new dispensation to be issued. They have made their return showing good work, their minute book is regular and well kept, and we recommend a Warrant be granted.

An application has been received from Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines, asking that a new Warrant be issued to replace the one destroyed by fire. We recommend that it be issued upon payment of the fee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. G. REID,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

CHARTER MEMBERS.

MAPLE, meeting at Carleton Place.—D. H. McIntosh, Z.; J. B. Pewtress, H.; F. Fisher, J.; George McDonald, John D. Taylor, Robert Strong, David Breckenridge, Samuel John Berryman, W. A. R. Knox, J. Rushworth, Robert Mercer, W. B. McArthur, J. M. Sinclair, Fred. J. Castle.

BENEVOLENCE.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

The Executive Committee of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada on Benevolent Grants beg leave to report

That we have examined the applications sent in by

the subordinate Chapters, and would recommend that the following grants be made, viz.:

Name of Grantee.	Amt.	No.	Through Whom Payable.
Widow of S. H. Blondheim.....	\$30	1	1st Principal Anc. Fron. and Cat. No. 1
" John Munro.....	10	2	" " " " " "
" W. B. Simpson.....	40	3	" " " " " "
Children of J. G. Burns.....	30	4	" " King Solomon, No. 8.
Widow of Samuel Waltho ...	30	5	" " McCallum, No. 29.
Com. Arch. Couper.....	50	6	" " " " " "
Orphan of M. McPhail.....	40	7	" " Huron, No. 30.
Mother Donald McLeod.....	20	8	" " " " " "
Widow of Robt. Ramsay.....	30	9	" " Signet, No. 34.
" W. B. Wallace.....	30	10	" " Victoria, No. 37.
" F. Bartlett.....	20	11	" " Mount Sinai, No. 44.
" John Vaux.....	20	12	" " Wellington, No. 47.
Comp. John Munro.....	40	13	" " Havelock, No. 63.
C. R. Barber.....	30	14	" " " " " "
Widow of T. D. Harington...	40	15	" " King Solomon, No. 8.
" Wm. McCadden....	20	16	" " St. John's, No. 3.

There is one new application, viz., that of Comp. C. R. Barber, recommended by Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine. In addition to these grants the amount of \$102 was contributed by five Chapters, and \$13 from other sources.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

DANIEL SPRY,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, and

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Benevolence be received and adopted.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals desire to report in the matter of Companion George Rawding, late Scribe E. of Vancouver R. A. Chapter, who was suspended by that Chapter for misappropriating money belonging to the Chapter. The case is reported under page 114 of the Proceedings of Grand Chapter for the year 1894.

Companion Rawding was summoned by the Grand Scribe E. to show cause at this Grand Chapter why he

should not be expelled. Companion Rawding having failed to show cause, your Committee recommend that he be expelled from the order for the said offence.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

D. F. MACWATT,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. F. Macwatt, and

Resolved—That the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals be received and adopted.

REPORT OF TESTIMONIAL COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh presented the following report :

To the M. E. Grand Z., Principals and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada :

M. E. SIR AND COMPANIONS—The Committee who were appointed at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter to procure and present to M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, P. G. Z., a suitable testimonial in recognition of his eminent services rendered the Royal Craft, beg to report that the testimonial was procured and at the Chapter of Instruction held in Stratford on Friday, 6th February, at which there was present the M. E. Grand Z., Grand S. E., and the members of the Committee, they presented it to M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, with the following address.

Signed on behalf of the Committee.

M. WALSH,
Chairman.

To John E. Harding, Esq., Q. C., Past Grand Z., Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

DEAR SIR AND M. E. COMPANION,—By the unanimous desire of the Grand Chapter expressed at the last annual convocation, it was resolved to mark your retirement from the exalted position of Grand First Principal by a tangible recognition of the devoted Companionship and unselfish zeal which distinctively characterized your rulership of the Royal Craft.

With pleasure your Companions in Grand Chapter noted the earnestness of purpose which distinguished your earlier periods of office, and felt that in promoting you to the highest station in their gift, they would enjoy the further satisfaction of knowing that it was a trust worthily bestowed.

That their confidence has not been misplaced is demonstrated in the visible progress and stability of Capitular Masonry throughout the jurisdiction, a happy condition of affairs attributable in no small degree to the personal care and supervision exercised by you during the past two years. Within that period your numerous visitations have effected the most promising results, and your active and cheerful co-operation in measures of reform have greatly assisted in placing Grand Chapter upon its present substantial and harmonious basis.

In relinquishing the sceptre, M. E. Sir, you have furnished to your Companions of Grand Chapter the opportunity of expressing their sense of the many estimable qualities, which as ruler and Companion, have made your reign conspicuous. In your fraternal relationship you have invariably displayed a steady adherence to duty, that combined with a kind and conciliatory disposition has contributed largely to the success of the Royal Craft in this Province.

Your Companions of Grand Chapter trust that the accompanying testimonial in which they embody their appreciation of those qualities, may prove to you a souvenir recalling pleasant memories of your official association with them, and they earnestly pray that the Great Omnipotent may long spare to them the assistance and counsel which has been of so much benefit in the past.

Signed on behalf of Grand Chapter.

M. WALSH,	} Committee.
W. G. REID,	
D. F. MACWATT,	
DANIEL SPRY,	
J. ROSS ROBERTSON, G. Z.	
THOS. SARGANT, G. S. E.	

To which M. E. Comp. Harding made the following reply :

M. E. Companions and R. E. Companions of the Committee of Grand Chapter :

Words fail me in which to express my full appreciation of the kindness of my Companions in presenting me with this valuable token of their approval and esteem, and you, M. E. and R. E. Companions, have added to my pleasure by making the presentation in this my mother Chapter, in the midst of my Masonic Brethren and Companions.

I must frankly say that my two years of office have been amongst the happiest years of my life, surrounded by my Companions ever ready to extend the right hand of fellowship, ever ready and anxious to assist in the good work. And if the two years that are past are to be reckoned as prosperous, we must not forget those earnest workers in the vineyard, the Grand Superintendents of Districts, for I must frankly tell you that with the staff of Grand Superintendents who assisted me during my term, it was impossible not to succeed.

In conclusion, M. E. and R. E. Companions, convey to Grand Chapter my sincere and hearty thanks for their great kindness, and assure them for me that the conviction that my Companions one and all have me in their kindly remembrance will be a continual source of pleasure to me during the remainder of my life.

Moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Testimonial Committee be received and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers.

The result of the election was as follows :

GRAND COUNCIL.

M. E. Comp.	J. Ross Robertson, Toronto.	Grand Z., re-elected.
R. E. "	M. Walsh, Ingersoll.....	Grand H., " "
R. E. "	W. G. Reid, Hamilton.....	Grand J., " "
M. E. "	Thos. Sargent, Toronto.....	Grand S. E., " "
R. E. "	Hugh Murray, Hamilton....	Grand Treas. " "

The Grand Chapter was then called off for the space of twenty minutes for the election of Grand Superintendents of Districts.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Grand Z.

R. E. " M. Walsh, Grand H.

R. E. " W. G. Reid, Grand J.

Grand Officers, members and Representatives.

The following Companions having been nominated by the representatives from the respective districts, they were approved of, and the elections confirmed by the M. E. Grand Z.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Thomas Peters, Walkerville,	St. Clair Dist. No. 1
R. E. "	A. G. McWhinney, London,	London " 2
R. E. "	A. R. K. McDonald, Woodstock,	Wilson " 3
R. E. "	R. Mahony, Guelph,	Wellington " 4
R. E. "	T. M. Davis, Hamilton,	Hamilton " 5
R. E. "	F. W. Gearing, Stratford,	Huron " 6
R. E. "	W. M. German, Welland,	Niagara " 7
R. E. "	Wm. Simpson, Toronto,	Toronto " 8

R. E.	Geo. Monkman, Barrie,	Georgian	9
R. E.	A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg,	Ontario	10
R. E.	Wm. Webster, Belleville,	Pr. Edward	11
R. E.	J. F. Graham, Prescott,	St. Lawrence	12
R. E.	W. B. McArthur, Ottawa,	Ottawa	13
R. E.	W. H. Hearst, Sault Ste. Marie,	Algoma	14
R. E.	Jas. Haddock, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	15
R. E.	Wm. Downie, Vancouver,	B. Columbia	16
R. E.	Jas. C. Kennedy, Melbourne,	Australia	17

The election of officers was then resumed with the following result :

GRAND OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	L. W. Burke, London, Grand Scribe N.
R. E.	Aubrey White, Toronto, Grand Prin. Soj.
R. E.	P. T. Lee, Newmarket, Grand Registrar.
	Comp. John H. Prichard, Grand Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :

R. E. Comp.	Wm. Roaf, Toronto, re-elected.
R. E.	D. H. Martyn, Kincardine,
R. E.	D. F. Macwatt, Barrie.
R. E.	A. Shaw, Kingston,
R. E.	Wm. Birrell, Hamilton.

The following named Companions compose the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee for the following term :

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, London, retires in 1896.
M. E.	John E. Harding, Stratford, retires in 1897.
R. E.	John S. Dewar, London, 1898.

The Grand Chapter calied from labor at 3 p. m.

Grand Chapter resumed labor at 7.30.

CONFERRING PAST RANK.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z. and seconded by M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, P. G. Z., and

Resolved, That Grand Chapter record its esteem of the brethren in the Australian District by conferring upon them past rank, as follows :

R. E. Comp.	Jos. D. Amer Drew, Sr., P. G. Supt. Kilwinning, Past Grand Z.
R. E. Comp.	Jos. D. Amer Drew, Jr., P. G. Supt. Kilwinning, Past Grand H.

- R. E. Comp. Francis B. L. Gaffney, P. G. Supt. Duke of Albany,
Past Grand H.
R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, Kilwinning, Past Grand H.
R. E. Comp. E. A. Collis, P. G. Supt. City of Melbourne, Past
Grand H.
R. E. Comp. S. Dumont, P. G. Supt. Kilwinning, Past Grand H.
R. E. Comp. E. H. Williams, P. G. Supt. Kilwinning, Past
Grand H.
E. Comp. W. Leddstone, Z., Murton, P. G. 1st. Asst. Sojourner.
" G. T. Howard, Z. Kilwinning, P. G. 1st Asst. Sojourner.
E. Comp. E. L. Oldfield, Z. Duke of Albany, P. G. 1st Asst.
Sojourner.
E. Comp. J. L. Wilson, Z. City of Melbourne, P. G. 1st Asst.
Sojourner.
E. Comp. W. Nicholls, H. City of Melbourne, P. Z.
E. Comp. D. Campbell, H. Duke of Albany, P. Z.
E. Comp. A. W. Brady, S. E. Kilwinning, P. Z.

and that the Grand Scribe E. send a cable message to the Grand Superintendent of the district informing him of the conferring of said rank, and send certificates of such rank by the next mail.

APPOINTMENT ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The M. E. Grand Z. then nominated the following Companions as the appointed members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------|
| R. E. Comp. | G. J. Bennett, | Toronto. |
| " " | G. V. T. Greenhill, | Galt. |
| " " | J. D. Christie, | Simcoe. |
| " " | Jas. Adams, | Kingston. |
| " " | W. W. Rutherford, | Aylmer. |

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh then presented the draft copy of the new Constitution as prepared by the Committee appointed for that purpose, which with a few amendments, was adopted as the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and the Grand Scribe E. was directed to have 2000 copies printed and bound; also to issue a circular to all the Chapters informing them that the new constitution had been adopted and could be obtained at his office.

In adopting the new constitution it was unanimously decided by the Companions that as the next session of the Grand Chapter would take place in January, 1896, making a term of only six months, that the next session of Grand Chapter be held on the fourth Wednesday of January, 1897, thereby making Section VI. to come into force on that date.

Moved by R. E. Comp. John Creasor, seconded by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved,—That the next Convocation of this Grand Chapter be held in the City of Toronto on the fourth Wednesday in January, 1897, at 2 p. m.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, assisted by M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent and R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	Chas. A. Matthews, Toronto,	Grand 1st Asst. Soj.
V. E. "	W. A. Karn, Woodstock,	" 2nd "
R. E. "	James B. Nixon, Toronto,	" Lecturer.
V. E. "	J. J. Moore, Stratford,	" Sword Bearer
V. E. "	J. Menish, Brockville,	" M. of 1st Veil.
V. E. "	N. J. Lindsay, Calgary,	" M. of 2nd "
V. E. "	W. J. Bradley, Sault Ste. Marie,	" M. of 3rd "
V. E. "	Comp. F. Gerow, Napanee,	" M. of 4th "
V. E. "	Colin Wigle, Amherstburg,	" Stan'd Bearer.
V. E. "	Harry H. Watson, Vancouver,	" D. of Cer'es.
V. E. "	James Might, M. D. Port Hope.	" Organist.
V. E. "	John Phelps, Welland,	" Pursuivant.
V. E. "	Wm. Anderson, Toronto,	" Steward.
V. E. "	William Smith, Billings' Bridge,	" "
V. E. "	Alex. Cameron, Owen Sound,	" "
V. E. "	Conrad Hoff, Milton,	" "

The M. E. Grand Z. directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office not having presented himself for installation or investiture, is to be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

VOTE OF THANKS.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That the cordial vote of thanks of this Grand Chapter is due and hereby tendered to the Masonic Hall Board of Trustees, the Companions of Toronto Chapters for their kindly attention and fraternal reception of the officers and members of Grand Chapter, as well as the arrangements made for the Thirty-eighth Convocation of this Grand Body. also to the officers and members of Wilson Lodge, who so kindly placed the Masonic Hall at our disposal on their regular meeting night.

The labors of the Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in *Ample Form* at 10 p. m.



W. Sargent

Grand Scribe E.

TORONTO, 16th July, A. L., 2425, A. D. 1895.

Addendum.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS AS ON 30th JUNE, 1895, AND LEDGER BALANCES TO 30th JUNE, 1895.

No.	Name of Chapter.	Where Held.	Reg. Meeting.	First Principal Z.	Scribe E.	Adm'ns	Joinings.	Restor'n.	Withd'ls.	Susp'ions	Expul'sns	Deaths.	Members	Last Returns.	Ledger Bal.		Cash Paid.
															Dr.	Cr.	
1	Ani, Fron. and Cat'l	Kingsston.....	Third Wed'day	Wm. Thomson	W. W. Waldren	4	...	1	2	3	...	4	79	M'y95	...	...	\$27 80
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	First Monday	C. V. Emery	G. E. Mason	5	3	2	4	...	...	3	181	"	...	...	49 30
3	St. John's.....	London.....	Fourth Wed.	H. Stratford...	John Seddons	30	...	...	...	1	...	...	116	"	...	...	75 20
4	St. And & St. John.	Toronto.....	Third Friday	George Moit...	R. W. Clewlo	7	...	1	4	...	...	4	108	"	...	...	52 60
5	St. George's.....	London.....	Fourth Friday	A. A. Campbell	Chas C. Reed	22	1	...	...	7	...	1	98	"	...	...	42 10
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	Second Thur.	W. R. Job	W. J. McAllister	6	...	...	...	6	...	6	223	"	...	...	60 60
7	Moirs.....	Belleville.....	First Tuesday	J. P. Thompson	Geo Duinlage	11	...	...	1	...	...	...	111	"	...	...	...
8	King Solomon.....	Toronto.....	First Friday	W H Woodstock	John Roberts	18	...	1	3	7	...	...	166	"	...	...	...
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Second Friday	Jas. Woods	David Watt	30	1	...	...	2	...	3	61	"	...	...	102 70
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	Third Friday	S. A. Luke.....	W. G. S. Reynolds	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	28	"	...	...	21 60
17	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	Third Monday	Jos. W. Kippon	Geo. Morrison	5	1	...	1	3	...	...	60	"	...	...	17 50
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.	F. on or b. f. m.	J. S. Campbell	C. G. McGhie	4	...	...	1	...	...	2	73	"	...	...	32 40
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	First Friday	L. Secord.....	W. L. Hughes	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	70	"	...	...	24 00
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Second Tues.	W. F. Graham	J. Stoddard	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	52	"	...	...	16 40
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	Thur. af. f. m.	T. H. Furlong	W. P. Kelley	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	51	"	...	...	31 70
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	First Tuesday	J. E. Sauegan	J. Baker	18	1	1	2	...	...	1	83	"	...	...	53 50
26	St. Marks.....	Trenton.....	First Wed.	John S. Dench	W. O. Lott	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	"	...	...	25 40
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	First Friday	G. M. Aylsworth	F. S. Gregory	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	32	"	...	...	14 40
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	Second Friday	A. E. Henry	L. K. Murton	7	2	...	...	...	...	2	38	"	\$3.00	...	28 20
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	Friday af. f. m.	R. J. Lattimore	J. E. Croly	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	44	"	...	...	70 00
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	Third Tuesday	J. W. Green	W. A. Rhynas	6	...	...	9	...	...	3	44	"	...	...	17 50
31	Prince Edward	Pictou.....	Mo. on or a f. m.	M. R. Allison	Ed. A. Case	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	92	"	...	...	31 30
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Second Mon.	J. H. Radford	J. W. Porteous	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	55	"	...	...	12 00
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	Second Tues	R. A. Douglas	Fred Marr	6	1	1	3	...	...	2	64	"	...	...	29 10
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	Third Friday	John H. Gale	Fred Hatch	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	38	"	...	...	18 60
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	Third Tuesday	David Spence	DNCarmichael	12	1	1	...	...	...	1	68	"	...	...	6 60
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	Second Friday	R. A. Mulholland	R. C. Smith	7	...	...	1	2	...	1	38	"	...	...	...
38	Seymour.....	Shelburne.....	Second Friday	F. F. Brown	R. H. McMaster	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	"	...	...	...
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	Second Friday	R. Howie.....	R. Gemmell	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	"	...	...	...
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	Second Friday	W. A. Woolson	J. H. Hegler	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	"	...	...	...
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	Wed. af. f. m.	T. D. Pruyn	R. L. Henry	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	"	...	...	23 20
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	First Thursday	W. G. Cornwall	J. L. Knapp	8	...	4	...	...	...	...	95	"	...	...	30 40
46	St. James.....	St. Marys.....	Third Friday	H. Fred Sharpe	Fred Sharp	6	1	8	...	4	...	8	52	"	...	...	10 70
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	Second Thur..	T. C. Macnabb	James Birch	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	37	"	...	...	13 90

48	St. John's	Cobourg	Fr. on or b. f. m.	W. H. Hovey	Robt. J. Craig	4	..	..	..	..	14 80
50	Saigeen	Mitchell	Th. on or b. f. m.	W. M. Elliott	F. H. Thompson	16	..	..	..	..	14 00
52	Prince Rupert	Winnipeg	First Thursday	T. H. Billman	J. M. Sumtee	1	..	..	..	..	49 60
53	Bruce	Petrolia	First Thursday	John Sinclair	Henry Mann	11	..	1	9	13	153
54	Palestine	St. Thomas	Second Thur.	Hy Bradshaw	W. E. Isard	2	..	1	..	..	3 00
55	Niagara	Niagara	Th. a. f. m.	Colin C. Milloy	J. M. Clement	2	..	..	..	..	23 70
56	Georgian	Owen Sound	Third Tuesday	Allan Cameron	R. McDowell	16	..	1	..	..	12 60
57	King Hiram	Port Colborne	Surrendered	Warrant	..	16	..	..	..	..	56 50
58	Pembroke	Mattawa	Third Tuesday	John DeSousa	A. N. Grasswell	26	..	2	7	..	86 20
59	Sussex	Brockville	Fr. on or b. f. m.	J. Menish	Jonathan Green	6	..	..	..	..	..
60	Doric	Newmarket	First Wed.	D. H. R. Phillips	A. McClellan	7	..	..	7	..	31 90
61	Granite	Almonte	Second Monday	A. F. McAdam	J. A. Munro	4	..	..	1	..	17 20
62	York	Eglington	First Thur.	W. M. Duncan	W. E. Hoffman	2	..	1	..	..	21 50
63	Havelock	Kincardine	First Thu.	E. Miller	Ias M. Stuart	4	..	..	1	..	..
64	Wilson	Welland	Last Wed.	J. H. Crow	J. H. Howell	16	..	..	..	..	61 80
65	St. Paul's	Toronto	Second Tues.	R. C. Donald	J. H. Paterson	5	..	2	5	..	47 20
66	Malloch	Seaford	Friday b. f. m.	Rev. J. H. Fairlie	R. C. Cheswrit	5	..	..	1	1	1 00
67	Enterprise	Harriston	First Monday	Geo. Leighton	David Clapp	3	..	2	2	4	25
68	Maitland	North Augusta	1st Fri a. f. m.	J. C. Chapman	J. B. Love	..	..	..	..	..	..
69	Grimby	Grimby	1st W. J. S. N. J. M	W. E. Millward	Wm. Forbes	3	..	..	..	3	27
70	Grand River	Bracebridge	Third Thur.	Isaac Huber	P. Hutchison	6	..	..	..	..	20
71	Prince of Wales	Amherstburg	Monday a. f. m.	Colin Wigle	Richard Elliott	8	..	..	1	3	30
72	Keystone	Sterling	Wed. b. f. m.	John Shaw	J. S. Carstairs	35	..	..	..	..	35
73	Erie	Ridgeway	Mon. a. f. m.	J. A. Anderson	A. Long	18	..	1	3	..	42
74	Beaver	Strathroy	Warrant	surrendered	Robt Coates	2	..	..	..	..	..
75	St. Clair	Milton	Second Tues	Conrad Hoff	Geo. Hyett	6	..	1	..	..	26
76	Mount Nebo	Niagara Falls	Fr. on or b. f. m.	J. F. Rothering	John Muir	5	..	1	1	2	53
77	Occident	Toronto	Second Monday	Wm. Riddle	G. M. Wedd	9	..	..	3	..	64
78	Minnewawa	Parkhill	Fr. on or a. f. m.	Wm. Caw	G. J. Mason	14	..	2	..	2	79
79	Orient	Toronto	Fourth Thur	Fred. W. Unitt	Robt Weir	1	..	1	2	6	56
80	Ark	Windor	Second Monday	Wm Holdstock	J. E. Richards	3	..	..	..	1	49
81	Aylmer	Aylmer	Frion or b. f. m.	L. B. Hoffman	J. A. McLellan	2	..	2	..	..	50
82	Shuniah	Port Arthur	"	W. H. Lemuth	George Irwin	10	..	1	1	64	28
83	Ionic	Orangeville	Tues a. f. m.	J. C. Brown	J. A. Morton	4	..	1	..	..	28
84	Lebanon	Wingham	First Wednes.	C. E. Williams	G. A. R. McLeod	2	..	..	2	..	21
85	Exeter	Exeter	First Tuesday	H. Spackman	C. F. Snellgrove	1	..	..	..	..	9 40
86	Macpherson	Meaford	Second Thur.	J. Spirling	J. H. McVean	2	..	..	..	..	21
87	Macnabb	Dresden	First Thursday	J. H. Sharpe	A. Carmichael	17	..	2	7	5	72
88	Golden	Rat Portage	Second Wed	Ias Weidman	A. R. Symons	8	..	..	..	..	32
89	Antiquity	Toronto	Third Monday	S. Horton	G. S. Patrick	..	..	..	..	..	..
90	Midland	Alliston	Warrant	surrendered	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
91	Spry	Lindsay	Third Thurs	J. D. Graham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
92	Midland	Lindsay	Third Thurs	J. D. Graham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
93	Midland	Lindsay	Third Thurs	J. D. Graham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
94	Midland	Lindsay	Third Thurs	J. D. Graham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS AS ON 30th JUNE, 1895, AND LEDGER BALANCES TO 30th JUNE, 1895—Continued.

No.	Name of Chapter.	Where Held.	Reg. Meeting.	First Principal Z.	Scribe E.	Adm't's	Join'gs.	Restor'n	Withd's.	Susp'ions	Expul't's	Deaths.	Members	Last Returns	Ledger Bal.		Cash Paid:	
															Dr.	Cr.		
95	Tuscan.....	Sudbury.....	.....	J. A. Sharp.....	S. Rondeau.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	M'y95	.....	.....	.....	
96	Aust. Kilwinning.....	N. Carlton, Aus.....	Second Tues.....	A. W. Wales.....	F. T. W. Brady.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	
97	City of Melbourne.....	Abbotsford.....	Third Thur.....	S. H. Leishman.....	G. H. Elliott.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73	.....	.....	.....	.....	
98	Keystone.....	Vancouver.....	Second Wed.....	Hy. A. Watson.....	T. H. Sisson.....	21	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	.....	.....	.....	85 70	
99	St. Lawrence.....	Port la Prairie.....	First Wed.....	W. J. Cooper.....	Geo. Davidson.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	
100	Corinthian.....	Brockville.....	First Thur.....	M. M. Brown.....	E. A. Geiger.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	17 00	
101	Algonquin.....	Boissevain.....	1st Wed. a. f. m.....	S. N. Birbeck.....	T. Williamson.....	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28	.....	.....	.....	10 10	
102	St. John's.....	Sault St. Marie.....	Second Friday.....	J. M. Wemyss.....	F. W. Johnston.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42	.....	.....	.....	12 90	
103	White Oak.....	North Bay.....	Third Monday.....	H. G. Reid.....	Wm. B. Way.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39	.....	.....	.....	14 80	
104	Signet.....	Oakville.....	2nd Tue. a. f. m.....	W. H. Speers.....	W. O. Joyce.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	.....	.....	17 40	
105	Alberta.....	Winnipeg.....	Fourth Wed.....	W. E. Hazley.....	D. McIntosh.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65	.....	.....	.....	32 00	
106	Citizens.....	Calgary.....	First Tuesday.....	R. N. Kirkpat'k.....	G. Murdoch.....	11	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	.....	.....	.....	45 80	
107	Duke of Albany.....	Melbourne.....	Second Thu.....	F. B. L. Gaffney.....	J. C. Kennedy.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	.....	.....	.....	62 50	
108	United Wimmera.....	Prahan.....	Third Friday.....	W. R. Hudson.....	J. C. Matthews.....	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	
109	Warkworth.....	Morden.....	Wed af. f. m.....	J. Humphries.....	W. F. Baker.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	.....	.....	.....	56 80	
110	Zeredatha.....	Morrisburg.....	First Wed.....	A. M. Stewart.....	Hy. Meikle.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	16 40	
111	St. John's.....	Farran's Point.....	Tu on or a. f. m.....	S. B. Fell.....	A. A. Logan.....	8	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....	36 80	
112	Covenant.....	Renfrew.....	Wed a. f. m.....	R. H. Harris.....	A. W. Ault.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	30 00	
113	Bonnechere.....	Paris.....	Third Monday.....	Jas Craig.....	G. W. McDon'd.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	57 00	
114	Brant.....	Carleton Place.....	Third Friday.....	Peter H. Cox.....	S. Y. Taylor W.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....	72 80	
115	Maple.....	Carleton Place.....	First Tuesday.....	D. H. McIntosh.....	J. Rushwood.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	.....	.....	.....	36 80	
116	Maple.....	Carleton Place.....	First Tuesday.....	D. H. McIntosh.....	J. Rushwood.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	.....	.....	.....	36 80	
														680	42	18 127	85 1 58 4977	\$2300 05

Ceremonies.....\$ 18 40
 Toronto General Trusts, interest..... 145 20
 Landed Banking & Loan Co., interest..... 243 04
 Western Canada Loan Co., interest..... 101 25
 Interest on Deposits..... 316 55

Total.....\$3124 47

RECAPITULATION.

No. of Chapters on the roll.....	98
“ “ represented.....	76
“ of Registrations.....	680
“ of Joinings.....	42
“ of Restorations.....	18
“ of Withdrawals.....	127
“ of Suspensions.....	85
“ of Deaths.....	58
“ of Expulsions.....	1
Total No. of members on the Roll.....	4977
“ amount of receipts, 1894-5.....	\$3,122.19
Net increase in membership.....	479

NOTE.—Three Chapters surrendered, total membership 86. One Dispensation recalled, 24.

EXPELLED. U. M. C.

No. 98. George Rawding, Vancouver, 16th July, 1895.

SUSPENDED, U. M. C.

No. 97. J. G. McPherson, 1st March, 1895, indefinitely.

SUSPENSIONS, N. P. D.—1894-5.

- No. 1. James B. Reid, Thomas Boyle, Wm. Lewis.
 No. 3. L. W. Ardiall.
 No. 5. W. R. Brown, Chas. Diggle, Rev. G. W. Calvert. John Wright, C. L. Drufor, E. Meredith, R. F. Kingsmill.
 No. 6. T. Cornell, J. Hargrave, J. D. Lyon.
 No. 7. R. D. C. Hulme.
 No. 8. T. McIlroy, J. A. McMurtry, Alex. McBean, J. B. Johnston, James Boyle, J. C. Gough, J. B. Shafe.
 No. 15. G. W. Dickson, W. F. Taylor.
 No. 18. L. E. Bennigay, D. A. Muir, F. U. Davis.
 No. 30. H. Clucas, J. Lasham, Wm. Bailie, R. B. Scott. L. Crawford, J. A. Miller, J. McBride, J. F. Lutrell, Thomas Lawrence.
 No. 37. William Andrew, William Thompson.
 No. 46. W. R. Knowlton, W. H. Morgan, A. Proctor, R. Greenshields.
 No. 52. John Lane, H. J. Raymer, George Buchanan, J. S. Nicholson, A. H. VanEtten, A. G. L. Guy, R. J. Bell, R. D. Foley, H. C. Browne, H. L. Langellier, F. M. Ross, W. H. Smith, D. H. Pardon.
 No. 60. James McClintock. Jesse Doan, R. J. Mader, William Breckon, Ezra B. Grant, John Spalding, Thomas Ratcliffe.
 No. 66. H. Goodser, W. L. Ouimette.

- No. 67. Alex. Michie, P. Laine, R. M. Hazlewood, Cyrus Hacking.
No. 71. Charles E. Fenton, F. J. Mulaney, William Hutt.
No. 80. Martin H. Miller, George W. Burch.
No. 81. Hugh Stewart, J. M. Cameron, Clay Miller, N. P. Dewar, Hugh Douglas.
No. 91. J. O. Orr, C. Johnston. T. E. Frankish, W. P. Atkinson, G. B. Mettleberger.
No. 98. J. R. Foster.

RESTORATIONS.

- No. 1. Alfred T. Holmes.
No. 2. Wm. Dewar, A. G. Robinson.
No. 4. Charles Dunn.
No. 24. John Gibson.
No. 36. H. Pigeon, W. H. Casement, W. H. Hill, R. Q. Dench.
No. 45—J. O. Proctor, John Keith, Randall P. Niles, Ira B. Thayer.
No. 52. James Kelly.
No. 67. Richard Moakes, Samuel R. Haight,
No. 77. L. B. Montgomery, Richard Dinnis.
No. 91. E. C. Davis, J. B. Hannah.



At Rest.

No. of Chap	NAME.	DATE.
1	Samuel Angrove.....	13th February, 1892....
1	Archibald McMillan.....	13th August, 1893.....
1	R. M. Horsey.....	7th November, 1894....
1	Geo. W. Robinson.....	25th May, 1895.....
2	William Heeney.....	14th June, 1894.....
2	W. W. Summers.....	18th February, 1895....
2	C. F. Gallagher.....	16th March, 1895.....
3	J. S. Deacon.....	31st August, 1894.....
4	Fred. J. Menet.....	4th April, 1895.....
4	Thomas Dean.....	1st May, 1895.....
4	James Pringle.....	3rd May, 1895.....
4	George W. Thorpe.....	9th May, 1895.....
5	James Moffatt.....	18th September, 1894...
6	A. A. Wylie.....	2nd June, 1894.....
6	J. B. Plastow.....	10th June, 1895.....
6	R. Harper.....	9th March, 1895.....
6	H. W. Sewell.....	3rd January, 1894.....
6	D. A. Shelvick.....	26th May, 1894.....
6	H. D. Bassett.....	1st June, 1895.....
8	A. T. Johnston.....	6th December, 1894....
8	James McKay.....	9th March, 1895.....
8	P. J. Slatter.....	11th March, 1895.....
15	W. Abernethy.....	18th July, 1894.....
15	D. Adams.....	10th August, 1894.....
15	D. Armstrong.....	19th April, 1895.....
19	Murdock McDonald.....	10th October, 1894.....
19	Robert Struthers.....	18th April, 1895.....
22	John Robinson.....	28th December, 1894....
24	I. F. Toms.....	14th May, 1895.....
27	Robert Dey.....	4th April, 1895.....
28	John McGill.....	28th April, 1894.....
28	Thomas Kirby.....	18th May, 1895.....
29	Fred. Clarke.....	21st May, 1895.....
30	William Craig.....	11th February, 1895....
30	James Addison.....	12th August, 1895.....
34	Fred. Edwards.....	23rd January, 1895....
34	J. Musgrove.....	22nd December, 1894....
35	Yeoman Gibson.....	20th December, 1894....
37	J. S. Baker.....	23rd October, 1894.....

At Rest.

No. of Chap.	NAME.	DATE.
46	S. Ingram.....	
46	J. Iredale.....	
46	W. Constable.....	
46	C. E. VanGunter.....	
46	W. A. Bayley.....	
46	S. B. Hudson.....	
46	S. Kuntz.....	
46	T. B. Guest.....	
54	J. M. Conroy.....	1st March, 1895.....
55	Robert Best.....	
59	William Fitzsimmons.....	13th July, 1894.....
59	T. R. Sparham.....	28th August, 1894.....
59	Turker Koyle.....	29th January, 1895.....
59	F. A. Hagaman.....	15th February, 1895.....
66	D. Young.....	10th March, 1895.....
69	W. Scott.....	15th November, 1894.....
69	R. M. Griffiths.....	15th January, 1894.....
77	Thomas Murray.....	19th May, 1895.....
79	John Ayre.....	25th September, 1894.....
81	W. A. Glover.....	10th December, 1895.....
98	A. W. Silletoe.....	8th June, 1894.....
103	W. C. Caverhill.....	19th September, 1894.....
105	R. L. Meadows.....	2nd November, 1894.....

E. COMPANION

James Moffatt

Past Grand Master,

Died 18th September, 1894.

LONDON.

M. E. COMPANION

Fred. J. Menet

P. G. Z.

Died April 4th 1895.

TORONTO.

R. E. COMPANION

Isaac J. Toms.

P. G. Superintendent,

Died May 14th, 1895.

GODERICH.

M. E. COMPANION

L. H. Henderson

P. G. Z.

Died July 19th, 1895.

BELLEVILLE.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER.

THE GRAND Z.

M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson..... Toronto.

THE GRAND H.

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh..... Ingersoll.

THE GRAND J.

R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid..... Hamilton.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Thos. Peters, Walkerville...	St. Clair	No. 1
" "	A. G. McWhinney, London	London	" 2
" "	A. R. McDonald, Woodstock	Wilson	" 3
" "	R. Mahoney, Guelph.....	Wellington	" 4
" "	T. M. Davis, Hamilton	Hamilton	" 5
" "	F. W. Gearing, Stratford...	Huron	" 6
" "	W. M. German, Welland...	Niagara	" 7
" "	Wm. Simpson, Toronto.....	Toronto	" 8
" "	Geo. Monkman, Barrie	Georgian	" 9
" "	A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg ...	Ontario	" 10
" "	W. Webster, Belleville.....	P. Edward	" 11
" "	J. F. Graham, Prescott.....	St. Lawrence	" 12
" "	W. B. McArthur, Ottawa...	Ottawa	" 13
" "	W. H. Hearst, St. Ste. Marie,	Algoma	" 14
" "	Jas. Haddock, Winnipeg ...	Manitoba	" 15
" "	Wm. Downie, Vancouver...	British Columbia	" 16
" "	J. C. Kennedy, Melbourne...	Australia	" 17

GRAND SCRIBE E.

M. E. Comp. T. Sargant..... Toronto.

GRAND SCRIBE N.

R. E. " L. W. Burke..... London.

GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

" " Aubrey White..... Toronto.

GRAND TREASURER.

" " Hugh Murray Hamilton.

GRAND REGISTRAR.

" " P. T. Lee Newmarket.

V. E. Comp. Chas. A. Matthews, Toronto. Grand 1st. Asst. Soj.

" " W. A. Karn, Woodstock.... " 2nd " "

R. E. " J. B. Nixon, Toronto..... " Lecturer.

V. E. " J. J. Moore, Stratford..... " Sword Bearer.

" " J. Menish, Brockville..... " M. of 1st Veil.

" " N. J. Lindsay, Calgary, " M. of 2nd "

" " W. J. Bradley, Sault Ste. Marie. " M. of 3rd "

" " Comp. F. Gerow, Napanee, " M. of 4th "

" " Colin Wigle, Amherstburg. " St'd Bearer.

" " H. H. Watson, Vancouver.. " Dir. of Cer.

" " J. Might, M. D., Port Hope. " Organist.

V. E. Comp.	John Phelps.....	“	Pursuivant.
“	“ Wm. Anderson, Toronto....	“	Steward.
“	“ A. Cameron, Owen Sound..	“	“
“	“ Wm. Smith. Billing's Bridge	“	“
“	“ Conrad Hoff, Milton.....	“	“

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, Ingersoll, President.

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE.

M. E. Comp.	John E. Harding.....	Stratford.
“	“ Donald Ross.....	Pictou.
“	“ Robert Hendry, Jr.....	Kingston.
“	“ R. B. Hungerford.....	London.
“	“ J. J. Mason.....	Hamilton.
“	“ Daniel Spry.....	London.
“	“ Thomas Sargent.....	Toronto.
“	“ Henry Robertson.....	Collingwood.
“	“ Kivas Tully.....	Toronto.
R. E.	“ Comp. W. G. Reid.....	Hamilton.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Thomas Peters, Walkerville,	St. Clair Dist. No. 1
R. E.	“ A. G. McWhinney, London,	London “ 2
R. E.	“ A. R. K. McDonald, Woodstock,	Wilson “ 3
R. E.	“ R. Mahony, Guelph,	Wellington “ 4
R. E.	“ T. M. Davis, Hamilton,	Hamilton “ 5
R. E.	“ F. W. Gearing, Stratford,	Huron “ 6
R. E.	“ W. M. German, Welland,	Niagara “ 7
R. E.	“ Wm. Simpson, Toronto,	Toronto “ 8
R. E.	“ Geo. Monkman, Barrie,	Georgian “ 9
R. E.	“ A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg,	Ontario “ 10
R. E.	“ Wm. Webster, Belleville,	Pr. Edward “ 11
R. E.	“ J. F. Graham, Prescott,	St. Lawrence “ 12
R. E.	“ W. B. McArthur, Ottawa,	Ottawa “ 13
R. E.	“ W. H. Hearst, Sault Ste. Marie,	Algoma “ 14
R. E.	“ Jas. Haddock, Winnipeg,	Manitoba “ 15
R. E.	“ Wm. Downie, Vancouver,	B. Columbia “ 16
R. E.	“ Jas. C. Kennedy, Melbourne,	Australia “ 17

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

M. E. Comp.	Thomas Sargent, Toronto.....	Grand Scribe E.
R. E.	“ L. W. Burke.....	Grand Scribe N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp.	D. F. McWatt.....	Barrie.
“	“ Wm. Roaf.....	Toronto.
“	“ D. H. Martyn.....	Kincardine.
“	“ Wm. Birrell.....	Hamilton.
“	“ A. Shaw.....	Kingston.

APPOINTED BY GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp.	G. J. Bennett	Toronto.
"	" J. D. Christie	Simcoe.
"	" G. V. T. Greenhill	Galt.
"	" J. Adams	Kingston.
"	" W. W. Rutherford	Aylmer.

SUB-COMMITTEES.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

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BENEVOLENCE.

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CONDITION CAPITULAR MASONRY.

R. E. Comps. G. J. Bennett, Chairman; Wm. Roaf, Wm. Birrell, Wm. Webster.

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CHAIRMAN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, Toronto.

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 1.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Thos. Peters, Walkerville.

No. 47. Wellington.. Chatham	No. 80. Ark..... Windsor
" 71. Pr of Wales Amherst'g	" 88. Macnabb..... Dresden
" 73. Erie..... Ridgetown	

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 2.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. A. G. McWhinney, London.

No. 3. St. John's..... London	No. 51. Palestine... St. Thomas
" 5. St. George's.... London	" 74. Beaver..... Strathroy
" 15. Wawanosh..... Sarnia	" 87. Minnewawa... Parkhill
" 53. Bruce..... Petrolia	" 81. Aylmer..... Aylmer

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 3.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. A. R. McDonald, Woodstock.

No. 18. Oxford.....Woodstock	No. 41. Harris.....Ingersoll
" 20. Mount Horeb..Brant'd	" 116. Brant.....Paris
" 23. Ezra.....Simcoe	

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. R. Mahoney, Guelph.

No. 32. Waterloo.....Galt	No. 67. Enterprise.. Harriston
" 38. Seymour...Shelbourne	" 83. Ionic.....Orangeville
" 40. Guelph.....Guelph	

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. T. M. Davis, Hamilton.

No. 2. Hiram.....Hamilton	No. 75. St. Clair.....Milton
" 6. St. John's...."	" 104. White Oak...Oakville

HURON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. F. W. Gearing, Stratford.

No. 24. Tecumseh....Stratford	No. 63. Havelock.. Kincardine
" 30. Huron.....Goderich	" 66. Malloch.....Seaforth
" 46. St. James.. St. Mary's	" 84. Lebanon....Wingham
" 50. Saugeen.....Mitchell	" 85. Exeter.....Exeter

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 7.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. M. German, Welland.

No. 19. Mt. Moriah, St. Cath's	No. 64. Wilson.....Welland
" 29. McCallum.. Dunnville	" 69. Grimsby.....Grimsby
" 55. Niagara.....Niagara	" 76. Mt. Nebo, Niagara F.S.

TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 7.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Wm. Simpson, Toronto.

No. 4. S.And.&S.John,Toronto	No. 65. St. Pauls.....Toronto
" 8. King Solomon's "	" 77. Occident....."
" 60. Doric.....Newmarket	" 79. Orient.....Toronto
" 62. York.....Eglington	" 91. Antiquity....Toronto

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Geo. Monkman, Barrie.

No. 27. Manitou..Collingwood	No. 70. Grand River, Brace'ge
" 34. Signet.....Barrie	" 86. Macpherson.. Meaford
" 56. Georgian.Owen Sound	" 103. St. John's..North Bay

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 10.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg

No. 28. Pentalpha.....Oshawa	No. 45. Excelsior... Colborne
" 35. Keystone.....Whitby	" 48. St. Jonh's.... Cobourg
" 36. Corinthian..Peterboro'	" 94. Midland.....Lindsay
" 37. Victoria....Port Hope	" 110. Warkworth, Warkw'th

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Wm. Webster, Belleville.

No. 7. Moira.....Belleville	No. 44. Mount Sinai..Napanee
" 26. St. Mark's....Trenton	" 72. Keystone..... Stirling
" 31. Prince Edward..Picton	

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 12.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. F. Graham, Prescott.

No. 1. Anc't Fron. & Catar- aqui.....Kingston	No. 68. Maitland...N. Augusta
" 22. Grenville.....Prescott	" 100. St. Lawrence, Brock'le
" 59. Sussex.....Brockville	" 112. St. John's..Morrisburg
	" 113. Covenant..Farran's Pt.

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. B. McArthur, Ottawa.

No. 16. Carleton.....Ottawa	No. 61. Granite.....Almonte
" 58. Pembroke...Mattawa	" 114. Bonnechere..Renfrew

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. H. Hearst, Sault Ste Marie.

No. 82. Shuniah..Port Arthur	No. 102. Algonquin..Sault Ste Marie.
" 90. Golden...Rat Portage	
" 95. Tuscan.....Sudbury	

MANITOBA DISTRICT, NO. 14.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. James Haddock, Winnipeg.

No. 52. Prince Rupert, Winni'g	No. 105. Signet.....Winnipeg
" 99. Keystone, P. la Prairie	" 106. Alberta.....Calgary
" 101. Corinthian, Boissevain	" 111. Zeradatha Morden

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, NO. 15.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. Downie, Vancouver.

No. 98, Vancouver.....Vancouver.

AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT, NO. 16.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. C. Kennedy, Melbourne.

No. 93. Melbourne.... Victoria	No. 108. Duke of Albany.....
.. 96. Aus. Kilw'ng, Melbo'ne	Melbourne
.. 97. City of Melbourne, "	" 109. United Winnemara..
.. 107. Citizens.....Melbourne	Melbourne

M. E.	Comp.	Hy. Robertson, Collingwood	New York	R. E.	Comp.	W. G. Thirkell.....	New York	Christopher G. Fox.....	Buffalo
R. E.	"	James Wilson.....	Toronto	E.	"	Chas. C. Clarke.....	New Berne	Horace H. Munson.....	Wilmington
"	"	Wm. G. Bell.....	Winnipeg	M. E.	"	John Davidson.....	Bismarck	F. J. Thompson.....	Fargo
"	"	J. Moodie.....	Hamilton	E.	"	Neil McKelvie.....	Summerside	Alex. Ross.....	Halifax
V. E.	"	Hugh A. Mackay.....	Ohio	R. E.	"	C. A. Woodward.....	Cleveland	Chas. C. Keifer.....	Urbana
R. E.	"	J. Baker.....	Oregon	E.	"	Donald Mackay.....	Portland	Jas. F. Robinson.....	Eugens
"	"	Donald McPhie.....	Pennsylvania	R. E.	"	Thos. R. Patton.....	Philadelphia	Chas. Cary.....	Philadelphia
M. E.	"	Daniel Spry.....	Quebec	M. E.	"	Will H. Whyte.....	Montreal	Will H. Whyte.....	Montreal
R. E.	"	M. Walsh.....	Rhode Island	R. E.	"	W. R. Greene.....	Providence	W. R. Greene.....	Providence
"	"	J. K. Kerr.....	Scotland	"	"	The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kin- tore, Carleton Club, Lon., E	London	Robt. S. Brown.....	Edinburgh
"	"	G. V. T. Greenhill.....	South Carolina	E.	"	J. M. Bratlen, M. D., Yorkville	Yorkville	Albert E. Fugle.....	Columbus
"	"	A. E. Cooper.....	South Dakota	"	"	Robt. T. Sedam, St. Lawrence	St. Lawrence	Geo. A. Pettigrew.....	Flandran
"	"	Wm. Gibson.....	Tennessee	M. E.	"	I. H. Bullock.....	Paris	W. A. Clendenning.....	Nashville
"	"	E. T. Malone.....	Texas	E.	"	Hy. Scherffius.....	Houston	Geo. Lopas, Jr.....	Houston
"	"	J. B. Nixon.....	Vermont	E.	"	C. W. Whitcomb, Proctors'le	Danville	War'n J. Reynolds.....	Burlington
"	"	Alex. Patterson.....	Virginia	M. E.	"	Geo. W. Dame.....	Danville	W. B. Isaacs.....	Richmond
"	"	Hugh Murray.....	Washington	"	"	D. K. McPherson, Walla Walla	Walla Walla	Vancy C. Blalock.....	Walla Walla
"	"	David Taylor.....	West Virginia	R. E.	"	Steph. W. Poe.....	Grafton	Odell S. Long.....	Wheeling
"	"	Gavin Stewart.....	Wisconsin	M. E.	"	Geo. E. Hopper.....	Eau Claire	John W. Laffin.....	Milwaukee

CHAIRMEN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

<i>Jurisdiction.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Jurisdiction.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>
Alabama.....	Palmer J. Pilans.....	Mobile.....	Montana.....	Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena.....
Arizona.....	Chas. A. Belden.....	.....	Nebraska.....	Chas. J. Phelps.....	Omaha.....
Arkansas.....	R. J. Laughlin.....	Bentonville.....	New Brunswick.....	A. S. Wait.....	Newport.....
California.....	W. A. Davis.....	San Francisco.....	New Hampshire.....	Geo. B. Edwards.....	Jersey City.....
Colorado.....	Geo. J. Bennett.....	Toronto.....	New Jersey.....	Frank Bell.....	.....
Connecticut.....	E. Leve N. Foster.....	Georgetown.....	Nevada.....	Geo. J. Gardner.....	Syracuse.....
Delaware.....	John H. Barlow.....	Birmingham.....	New York.....	P. J. Thompson.....	Reno.....
District of Columbia.....	V. H. Harrison.....	Washington.....	North Carolina.....	Jas. Southgate.....	Durham.....
Florida.....	W. R. Singleton.....	Washington.....	North Dakota.....	P. J. Thompson.....	Fargo.....
Georgia.....	Enos Wasgate.....	Jacksonville.....	Nova Scotia.....	Alex. Ross.....	Halifax.....
Illinois.....	W. S. Ramsay.....	Dublin.....	Ohio.....	S. Stacker Williams.....	Toledo.....
Indiana.....	John M. Pearson.....	Godfrey.....	Oregon.....	I. M. Hodson.....	Portland.....
Iowa.....	Thos. B. Long.....	Terre Haute.....	Pennsylvania.....	M. H. Henderson.....	Philadelphia.....
Ireland.....	T. R. Ercanbrack.....	Annamosa.....	Quebec.....	E. T. D. Chambers.....	Quebec.....
Indian Territory.....	R. W. Hill.....	Atoka.....	Rhode Island.....	Geo. H. Brnham.....	Providence.....
Kansas.....	John H. Brown.....	Kansas City.....	South Carolina.....	Albert E. Fugle.....	Columbia.....
Kentucky.....	Jas. H. Staton.....	Brookville.....	South Dakota.....	Lewis G. Levey.....	Webster.....
Louisiana.....	Rev. H. C. Duncan.....	Alexandria.....	Tennessee.....	H. H. Ingersoll.....	.....
Maine.....	J. H. Drummond.....	Portland.....	Texas.....	John N. Terrel.....	Terrel.....
Maryland.....	E. T. Schultz.....	Baltimore.....	Vermont.....	Marshall O. Perkins.....	Windsor.....
Massachusetts.....	Seranus Bowen.....	Boston.....	Virginia.....	Yancey S. Bialock.....	Walla Walla.....
Michigan.....	Jefferson S. Conover.....	Coldwater.....	Washington.....	Odell S. Long.....	Charleston.....
Minnesota.....	Thos. Montgomery.....	St. Paul.....	West Virginia.....	Wm. C. Swain.....	Milwaukee.....
Mississippi.....	P. M. Savery.....	Tupelo.....	Wisconsin.....		
Missouri.....	Wm. H. Mayo.....	St. Louis.....	Scotland.....		

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VALEDICTORY.

After twenty-seven years of service as Chairman of the Correspondence department of Grand Chapter, the writer desires to bid a regretful farewell to those, who during all these years, have made his duty a pleasure. It has fallen to his lot to receive from his colleagues the most kindly appreciation, evidenced on many occasions and in the most gratifying and acceptable manner. To have met with praise and attention from the most thoughtful members of our Fraternity, men whose words are words of wisdom, whose information is accurate and whose experience is extensive, has been at once grateful and stimulating, and to this may be ascribed whatever of merit there has been in his compilation and original work. The labor of selection has been a matter of patience and applied effort. He has endeavored to bring to bear upon it the diligent reading, the discrimination and the devotion that the work demands. His aims were probably greater than his ability to execute them, and to this may be attributed the deficiencies.

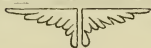
In these reports information has been decimated of the progress of Capitular Masonry. The discussion of vital questions of Masonic import has been of incalculable benefit to the Craft, that error might be avoided and defects remedied. An interchange of cordial expressions of regard and fraternal greetings has been constantly maintained. If his humble labors have aided in these praiseworthy objects, the writer has cause to be abundantly satisfied. He has many keen regrets in thus parting with the friends of over a quarter of a century and in thus foregoing the pleasure and instruction derived from contact with the ablest minds in the Fraternity.

His successor, the R. E. Companion George J. Bennett, is an able and talented writer and an earnest and devoted Mason, one who will carry on the good work in a more acceptable manner and with greater satisfaction to the Craft, and for whom is sincerely desired a continuance of that kindly courtesy and fraternal appreciation that has been so liberally manifested in the past.

HENRY ROBERTSON.



APPENDIX.



REPORT ON
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

1895.

To the M. E. the Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

Your Committee presents herewith the report on Foreign Correspondence which embraces a review of the Proceedings of forty-five Grand Chapter Convocations, those of Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Nova Scotia, Oregon and Washington not being to hand.

The report is tendered, even as the duty was assigned, without apology. It was in the spirit of obedience that the unsought task was undertaken, and not from any idea, remote or otherwise, that we were capable of presenting a work that would bear inspection.

The distinction of being a reviewer, is, we confess, great, but that greatness we were not born to, neither has it been achieved.

Unskilled in the diplomacy of the guild, and holding views on one or two matters, strong, and perhaps iconoclastic, there will be found many to class this specimen among the early spring variety and label it "fresh."

"Great men may jest with saints: 'tis wit in them,
But in the less, foul profanation."

This is our "fust offence," probably the last, but we own to a feeling of satisfaction at being permitted, even for a period, to commune with Companions who are so eminently qualified to differ with one another, and who, spite of convincing argument delicate or pungent, cling to their own views of the question, with the tenacity and urbane tact of gentlemen of the old school.

Herein the neophyte is lacking. At the slightest provocation he is tempted to don the gloves and make an exhibition of himself. To see ourselves as others

see us, is not always a gratifying spectacle, but when the bricks do begin to fly this way, protecting shelter will not be out of easy reach.

Meantime with all its imperfections, some of which from their very originality we are inclined to be proud of, the report is now relinquished and

Fraternally submitted.

GEO. J. BENNETT,
Chairman.

Alabama.

Chapters 42 ; Members 1029.

The Sixty-eighth Annual Convocation was held at Montgomery Dec. 3rd and 4th, 1894. John A. McKinnon, Grand High Priest, presiding.

Whatever may have been the business that necessitated a two days' session, but little of it is given to the publisher, as seventeen pages suffice to satisfy his requirements.

The Grand High Priest's address leads to the inference that Capitular Masonry in Alabama is suffering from a period of inaction. He opens with a eulogium of the Royal Craft which impresses one with the idea that the G. H. P. is a profound thinker—as for instance :

“United in one grand organization as this is, with hearts cemented by mutual affection, and with a common purpose, we are enabled to persuade the profane that Royal Arch Masonry is an acquisition to be sought after. Teaching concessions as it does, strained differences can be adjusted and the ruling passions controlled.”

“To preserve it unimpaired should be our constant aim, and the carrying out of its precepts in our lives our greatest pleasure. For ‘as man’s inhumanity to man makes countless millions mourn,’ so by the perversion of the precepts of Royal Arch Masonry innumerable displeasures and disappointments arise in life whose bidding will not down, but hover around much to our annoyance.”

He recommended that a former edict, providing that the suspension of a R. A. Companion should follow his suspension for N. P. D. in the Blue Lodge be restored.

This was favorably considered by the Committee on Jurisprudence, and in this shape finally adopted :

“A suspension or expulsion upon trial and conviction by a Master Mason’s Lodge shall be binding upon the action of the Chapters of this Jurisdiction, and that from and after the first day of June, 1895, one under suspension by a Master Mason’s Lodge for non-payment of dues, shall also stand suspended as a Royal Arch Mason.

The application of Pratt City Chapter for remission of dues on account of loss by fire was not recommended by the Finance Committee, because “we have been compelled in consequence of the embarrassed financial condition to reduce many of our appropriations, notably the salary of our worthy Grand Secretary two hundred dollars.”

Comp. P. J. Pillans prefaces his twenty-eighth annual report on Correspondence with the sad suggestion that it may be his last, “for strength both of mind and body failing prompt him to the belief that one more vigorous would better fit the vigor and intelligence of this Grand Chapter.”

The vigor and intelligence aforesaid was embodied in a resolution of Grand Chapter that will receive the hearty endorsement of every Companion who has had the privilege of perusing the admirable reports of this veteran reviewer.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Alabama realizes the long and eminent services rendered by Companion P. J. Pillans, and while appreciating his request to be released from longer service as Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, feel that the work can not be confided to safer hands.

Resolved, further, That the Grand Chapter would respectfully state that his continuance in the position would be exceedingly gratifying to the body and beneficial to the Chapter at home and abroad.

Resolved, That hearty thanks are hereby extended to Companion Pillans for his past service, and our earnest hope expressed that he may continue for many years to illustrate by a noble life the beauty and beneficence of Masonry.

Canada for 1894, as usual receives kindly mention. He again cons our system of superintending the districts and comments thus :

.. “In this Jurisdiction there are Grand Superintendents of

districts, whose duties are fully defined, so that upon their reports the Grand Chapter is fully apprised of the condition of the Craft. Their reports are supervised by a committee on the condition of Capicular Masonry, who are very plain sometimes in their comments thereon."

Of the feminine attachment, to which the Craft in other States have exhibited a partiality, he says under Washington :

"In our region we have yet to learn of Eastern Star Chapters, and in what respect, and to what extent they are Masons."

Canada, it must be confessed, is in the same condition of blissful ignorance, nor can it be added that the desire to receive light on the subject is the predominant wish of our hearts.

John E. Smith, Birmingham, Grand High Priest ;
H. Clay Armstrong, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

Arizona.

Chapters 5 ; Members 187.

The Fifth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Phoenix, on the 11th November, 1894. Grand High Priest Alexander G. Oliver presiding, and some twenty-five representatives in attendance.

The Grand High Priest's address is not voluminous but it possesses some interest. He opens thus :

"Where the beautiful city of Phoenix now stands, only a decade ago was a wilderness—is now renowned for her beautiful homes, the push and energy of her people, which has brought in so short a period of time, a desert of cacti and sage brush to blossom with the orange, lemon and olive tree. Amongst her Edenic scenery, cultured homes, refinement and hospitality of its inhabitants, we greet the Grand Chapter on this its fifth Annual Grand Convocation."

Enough to make a Canadian real estate boomer turn green with envy and incline the reader's thoughts in the direction of emigration ; but fearing that after so pretty an introduction too much might be expected of him, he bluntly says :

"I am simply a plain business man, and do not feel competent, nor do I consider it my duty, to deliver a lecture on Masonry."

Well, perhaps not. Yet we venture the opinion that

Comp. Oliver's example is a lecture in itself. His exalted position establishes that much. But surely the reader may reasonably hope that with the advantages of a fruitful soil, and a pushing people, this young Grand Chapter may not only grow in proportion to its "beautiful" cities, but that time will develop its latent talent and yield a plentiful crop of Masonic students. That it gave promise of distinguishing itself in this respect was manifest in the zeal of the late Comp. Harry Budd Lighthizer who was Chairman of Foreign Correspondence, and whose reports were among the brightest of the many that annually cheer and instruct the Companions of a vast continent. The Grand High Priest pays a merited tribute to his memory.

The financial report shows that the receipts amounted to \$239.35. The expenditure was confined to the printing and mailing of the Proceedings and totalled \$155, and Grand Chapter starts out on another year with a credit balance of \$144.25. The Companions of Arizona believe in printers' ink. Be it remarked however, that the work of the Grand Secretary and other executive officers is a labor of love. The reward that sweetens that labor is the appreciation of the Companions and the knowledge that they are engaged in a most excellent undertaking.

Under General Regulations are found the following :

"The restoration to good standing by a Lodge, of any Companion who has been suspended by it for any cause, and where no action has been had, in his case directly by the Chapter, restores him to good standing in the Chapter."

"Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this Jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark and record the same in a book of marks kept by the Chapter for that purpose, and it is made the special duty of the Secretary of each Chapter to see that this regulation is complied with."

Comp. Charles A. Belden who takes up the duties of the late Comp. Lighthizer presents a most acceptable report on Correspondence, in which Canada, sad to relate, does not appear.

We yield to him a modicum of our gratitude, however, for enlightening the Capitular world in one respect. For a long period we have vainly sought for something

that might be construed into an excuse for permitting the Past Master's degree to live. The ritualistic fable as well as the very specious arguments about its alleged beauty were wholly unconvincing. A ray of brilliance at last pierces the Cimmerian obscurity. Under Oregon the Arizona torch-bearer says :

"We are of those who believe that the degree is a good one. It is the only one where the Ritual gives an opportunity of the display of the ready wit of the Companions. The deeper and more subtle reasoning faculties may here display themselves, and that we conceive to have been the intent of the degree, but unfortunately, that plan is too trying to many and the resort to horse-play is so much easier that, unless we have a strong willed High Priest, we have a poor display of wit. We have often arranged for a peculiar contest, involving simple parliamentary tactics, all plain enough to be comprehended by a novitiate, and whenever a fair opportunity occurred to work the scheme, we never failed to thoroughly enjoy the results. In Masonry we do not exclusively extol the moral attributes; we frequently attempt to demonstrate the folly of certain human indiscretions by practical experiences. No more necessary lesson is taught in Masonry than is sought to be inculcated by the Past Master degree."

Canada has been held up occasionally by the critical correspondent for publishing the names of Companions suspended for non-payment of dues. Comp. Belden's reply to the Pennsylvania reviewer who paternally takes Arizona to task for similar action is to the point :

"Right there, Companion Henderson, we join issue. You are sympathizing with the wrong side. We publish yearly a general list of members, and it would be unjust to all concerned to fail to notice changes. Think of the faithful and accord them your sympathy. Don't waste sentiment or tears over those who not only fail to meet their obligations, but utterly refuse to pay any heed thereto. Do not suppose for an instant that we in Arizona will suspend a member merely because he has not paid dues. There are a few true hearted Masons here as well as elsewhere who cannot pay dues. We could not be forced into letting them go. But there are also a few others who have no excuse for slighting their obligations, who pay no attention to courteous requests, who seldom or never attend to any Masonic duty, who really don't want to remain with us and who are not a credit to the Order. This latter class we suspend, and a public announcement of the fact is no injustice to them and need not harrow up the souls of others."

Francis A. Shaw, Phoenix, Grand High Priest;
Geo. J. Roskrige, Tucson, Grand Secretary.

Arkansas.

Chapters 70 ; Members 2050.

Forty-five Annual Convocations has this Grand Chapter notched in its record. M. E. John C. Bone, Grand High Priest, presided over the representatives of fifty Chapters at that for 1894, which convened at the City of Little Rock on the 25th November. Some 14 Chapters were so far in arrears that the Returns Committee recommended that steps be taken to revivify them or arrest the charters, notwithstanding which the Grand High Priest says that "we are in the midst of plenty and are at peace with all the world."

In his admirable address Comp. Bone exhibits some of the perfections and peculiarities of the law which governs in Arkansas. For instance, he promptly refused to a couple of Chapters the privilege of using two substitutes so as to permit a M. E. M. in each to be exalted, probably much to the vexation of these aspiring brethren, but with equal alacrity he granted a dispensation to ballot on the petition of two brethren without waiting the specified time, in order that an M. E. M. who was going abroad might have the benefit of a regulation class. All of which may be in accordance with the code, but seen from a distance it bears all the outward and visible signs of inconsistency.

The Grand High Priest's recommendation that the term of service of Grand Representatives be limited, was disapproved by the Committee on Law and Usage, which also submitted the following extraordinary resolution :

"That all Officers and Committeemen of this Grand Chapter shall be taken from the membership of the Grand Chapter."

If the foregoing had been submitted in other Grand Chapters, which shall be nameless, one might reasonably infer that the Eastern Star had been getting in its fine work.

New South Wales was recognized and five hundred dollars was donated to the Temple Fund.

Comp. Laughlin submits the report on Correspondence and adds a valuable statistical compilation of his

own a summary of which we take the liberty to reproduce.

GRAND CHAPTER	Date Reviewed.	No. Subordinates.	No. Members.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Reinstated.	Dimitted.	Dropped. Suspended. Expelled.	Died.	Net Gain.	Loss.
Total in U. S.	1894	2411	186873	13612	1810	663	3645	3644	2517	6453	37
Canada.....	1894	96	4634	673	157	19	126	115	38	570	
New Brunswick...	1894	7	401	19	1	...	7	2	5	6	
Nova Scotia.....	1894	14	664	59	8	...	27	8	10	22	
Quebec.....	1894	10	443	47	...	...	10	16	6	15	
Total in N. America	1894	2538	193015	14410	1976	682	3815	3785	2576	7066	37
Total in N. America	1893	2475	183374	14960	1971	914	3298	3267	2676	9020	35
Total in N. America	1892	2432	175050	14993	1814	764	3385	3256	2434	8908	24
Total in N. America	1891	2378	167064	12246	1701	870	3350	2841	2327	6320	12
Total in N. America	1890	2276	159715	11642	1725	020	3317	2995	2106	6022	66

Under Canada he says :

" We doubt the propriety of this course of cheapening the degrees, but it will be well to watch the effect of that as well as the action of Grand Chapter in striking from the Constitution the word ' Past Master. '"

Canada, in matters Masonic at any rate, is eminently conservative. When she makes a break at all it is only after due deliberation. In reducing the minimum fee the interests of a large section of the fraternity were considered, and the usual wise discretion of the Companions was not lost sight of. As for the other, there is surely pardon for " a sinner that repenteth. " Canada, in her youth followed a mistaken lead, and now like a true penitent, she can sit among the contrite, impervious to the watching of those who prefer to continue in the path of error.

Referring to the action of Missouri in appointing a committee to prepare a R. A. funeral service, he very properly says :

" As we have said frequently, we are sorry to see such things. The burial of the dead belongs to the Third Degree by custom, analogy and symbolism. Of course Master Masons cannot participate in Royal Arch burials; and if the custom should become general, (we do not fear that, however) it would have a tendency to degrade Blue Lodge Masonry in the minds of the public. In short, we have no patience with these new-fangled ' Higher Degree ' notions. "

" Once a Mason always a Mason " is the sentiment embodied in his comment on Comp. Wait's (New

Hampshire) theory that a person expelled from Masonry is no longer a Mason ; he says :

“The ‘old landmark’ expression, ‘Expelled Mason,’ like Dimitted Mason, Non-Affiliated Mason, etc., carries the idea we have always entertained. All our laws in regard to restoration from indefinite suspension, and expulsion, carry the idea with them of a spark of Masonic life being left even after expulsion.”

James M. Harkey, Russellville, Grand High Priest ;
James A. Henry, Little Rock, Grand Secretary.

California.

Chapters 68 ; Members 5132.

The Forty-first Annual Convocation was held in San Francisco on the 16th April, 1895. Fifty-six Chapters were represented. M. E. Comp. Ellison Lassell Crawford, Grand High Priest, read the annual address and after the customary expressions of gratitude for being permitted to do so, said :

“From my observations during the past thirty years, I can but be satisfied that the moral standard of Royal Arch Masonry has been advancing upward. Many things that in years past were blots upon its honored name, have been gradually effaced, if not yet entirely eradicated.

There is one evil that more than all others hangs like a cloud upon its good name : Intemperance, that curse of our day, is yet too common among the Craft. Not being fully in favor of radical measures, I can only suggest and recommend that we, one and all, live temperate lives, seeking rather by example than by force to inculcate the cardinal virtues of temperance. Admonish in the kindest manner possible, and by brotherly counsel endeavor to correct the evil.”

The casual reader naturally shudders in contemplating the “moral standard” of thirty years ago and what the blots may have been that prompted the Grand High Priest to boldly refer to one existing. To what end are the precautions with which the Sanctuary is guarded when a chief officer finds it necessary to give utterance to a wail so dismal ? It is a sad commentary on the protection of the ballot box, twice exercised, as well as a reflection on the vigilance of the Companions generally. But it is just possible that in the golden west, as elsewhere, solitary lapses from virtue are magnified to the proportions of an epidemic and the mere presence on the banquet table of anything more exhila-

rating than sarsaparilla is sufficient to stamp the occasion a saturnalia. Intemperance, as everybody knows, can, and does, run in channels other than that referred to, and leads now and then to indiscretions as harmful as the indulgences complained of. Precept and example, as the Grand High Priest himself suggests, are remedies invariably potent in their efficacy, whereas publicity given to an imprudent statement of the above sweeping nature, furnishes a weapon for enemies of the Craft and is obviously capable of working an incalculable amount of mischief.

Meantime it will be observed that notwithstanding "the cloud upon its good name" Royal Arch Masonry "has steadily advanced in numbers and influence." In view, therefore, of the record of a glorious past, we must be permitted to venture a doubt that the sunny sky over fair California is shadowed by anything more threatening than a fleecy speck.

In the case of a Chapter meeting from which the three principal officers were absent and where the junior Past High Priest declined to open and preside, he decided that the opening and the conducting of the business by another Past High Priest present, was illegal, and voided the election of two candidates and the conferring of the Mark Degree upon one of the latter.

Of his visitations, he says :

"It has been my pleasure, and I feel proud of having been the first Grand High Priest to visit many of our Chapters, some of the oldest. We are all so constituted as to desire to see those in authority. Men go miles to look upon the President of our country ; so in Masonry, the great body of Royal Arch Masons never see a Grand Officer, and when an opportunity offers they will travel some distance to have the pleasure of meeting and shaking hands with a Grand High Priest. It has been my good fortune to meet many such, and in the evident manifestations of pleasure exhibited by these Companions I feel well rewarded for my labors."

"Generally I have found the Chapters in a prosperous condition, notwithstanding the hard times which have prevailed during the past year, and in but a single instance peace and harmony prevail among the workmen."

And all in despite of the "one evil that more than all others hangs like a cloud upon its good name." Yet

there is another evil to which he refers that will possibly require something stronger than example to remove.

"My attention has recently been called to one Granville A. Frambes, who is travelling over our jurisdiction peddling certain so called Masonic degrees, claiming that they are the genuine, and that he had been recognized by the Grand Bodies of the world. Gen. Reg. 21 very clearly defines what are the true and legitimate bodies of Masonry, and should be strictly enforced. The course of the said Frambes is creating discord and confusion among the Chapters of this jurisdiction. In his course the said Frambes is aided and abetted by members owing allegiance to this Grand Chapter. I can but say that the High Priests of the Chapters of which said aiders and abettors are members have been derelict of their duty in not enforcing Gen. Reg. 21, after the decided action of the Grand Chapter at the Session of 1892. (see proceedings, pages 277-278)"

From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence dealing with the foregoing, the following extracts will show that prompt measures were necessary. After reciting the regulation referred to and which set forth the Masonic bodies entitled to recognition, to wit :

"The Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the several States and Territories ; the General Grand Chapter of the United States and the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the United States and Territories ; the General Grand Council of the United States, and the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the States and Territories ; the Grand Encampment of the United States, and the Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar of the States and Territories ; the Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the United States, of which Henry L. Palmer and Albert Pike, are, respectively, Grand Commanders."

The report continues :

"The foregoing is a solemn declaration by this Grand Body, made after due deliberation, and gave ample notice to the dealers in clandestine wares that their evil transactions would be no longer tolerated by the Royal Arch Masons of California.

"It has now become a question of duty, and neither the Grand Chapter, nor any member thereof, should shirk a known duty. Hence, if a Mason is guilty of the introduction of discord among the Craft by the dissemination of counterfeit Masonry in our jurisdiction, he is amenable to, and should be punished by, the bodies affected by his unlawful acts.

"Our Grand Chapter is directly affected by these unprincipled speculators. Chapters of its obedience are being trampled upon by the misrepresentations of lying mercenaries, whose solicitations are poured into the ears of Master Masons whose desire for rapid advancement outruns the discretion their Lodge teachings should have inculcated,

"The disease is one that should no longer be trifled with, but should be met with a firm and decided application of the law in such cases provided.

"For our own kindred and brethren, trial should be had, and, if found guilty, the law should be vindicated.

"For the miserable disturber of our Masonic peace from abroad, some punishment should be devised in keeping with his offensive acts.

"For some reason there seems to be, on the part of the Chapter most directly affected by the violation of this general regulation, a reluctance to comply with the instructions of the Grand Chapter as set forth by the adoption of the report of this Committee; therefore, in order to avoid the friction possibly consequent upon the neighborly relations of the parties interested, we recommend that the trial of all charges in relation to the violation of Regulation No. 21 be transferred to Stockton Chapter, No. 28, and the Grand High Priest is authorized to make the necessary appointments and arrangements for such trials upon the presentation to him of the necessary charges and specifications."

The report on Correspondence is presented by Comp. William A. Davies, who in travelling carefully over a vast territory fails not to take in Canada, and give it aboutifful measure of his fraternal notice.

Adolphus Hewel, Modesto, Grand High Priest ;
Thomas H. Caswell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

Colorado.

Chapters 31 ; Members 2,450.

M. E. Comp. Henry T. West presided at the Twentieth Annual Convocation in Denver, Sept. 20, 1894, all the Chapters but one being represented. One new charter was issued. The Grand High Priest presented a lengthy and interesting address. During his term he visited all the Chapters in the jurisdiction, and personally observed the working of each.

Being asked to construe the rule :

"That each candidate be required to pass a satisfactory examination, in open Chapter, as to his proficiency in the preceding degree before advancement,' as to how it could be done with a Master Mason previous to his 'being advanced' to the honorary degree of Mark Master."

"I answered : 'The Chapter has no control over the Lodge degrees. The brother comes to the Chapter 'vouched for' as a Master Mason. The requirement as to examination only refers to the degrees conferred in the Chapter.'"

Closing, he says :

I know that I hold radical ideas on many Masonic questions, and have endeavored to purge the Chapters of those things which I deemed improper ; but I trust that I have in all cases, used the authority with which the Grand High Priest is invested, with such courtesy as to have offended none. Such has been my intention. If I failed, it was an error of the head and not of the heart ; but my three score and ten years of my life, and my Masonic work for forty-four years has convinced me that it is sometimes as important to remove the rubbish as to place a stone in the walls of the Temple."

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals reported verbally that they " could not find anything to do." A happy condition of affairs.

The Grand Chapter of New South Wales was duly recognized and "welcomed into fellowship."

A thoughtful Companion evidently realizing that the election of officers was no child's play, generously invited Grand Chapter to the ante room, where the members thereof "had all the peaches they could eat," an example that thoughtful Companions elsewhere might emulate with some hope of appreciation.

The recommendation of the Grand High Priest with reference to forms of trial and code of procedure is thus disposed of by the Committee on Jurisprudence.

"Your committee are of the opinion that the forms and codes of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge are amply sufficient to cover all cases, and that it is unnecessary for this Grand Chapter to cumber its records with any further laws on that subject."

Comp. Foster's report on Correspondence is exhaustive and searching, embracing all the Grand Chapters of North America. Canada receives kindly mention.

That he is opposed to dual membership is gathered from his comment on Comp. Barlow's remarks with reference to an affiliated Companion signing a petition for a new charter.

"We believe that no Mason should be made a charter member of any new Chapter without he has a dimit from his former affiliation, unless the very act of the issuing of the charter dimit him from his former affiliation at the same time that it makes him a charter member; of course this latter can only occur where there is a regulation to that effect and he is a member of the

jurisdiction granting the charter. Hence, in all other cases we believe that the dimit should accompany the application.

Under Kentucky he says :

“He sees no harm in ladies or other good singers, not R. A. M's taking part in the musical division of the ceremonies, and then retiring beyond reach of seeing or hearing any other part of the ceremonies. To this, we dissent. We are of the opinion that all Masonic work should be done by Masons only. That magnificent music adds great interest to the work, we admit, but let it be the voices of Companions.”

Same here, Companion; innovations of even so attractive a nature would result in chaos.

Michigan's boast that a Chapter had broken the record by exalting thirty-six in one day, is met thus :

“It is probably true that this is a record breaker, but going through the degrees by lightning express on vestibuled trains is not an impressive ceremony, and unless there is some very urgent reason, we believe the conferring in a less hasty manner is better for the Craft.”

The proposal by Missouri to prepare a funeral service for Capitular Masonry he opposes in terms which we most cordially endorse.

“The Master Mason is the summit of Masonry, and its beautiful service for the dead is all that Masonry needs. The Capitular, Cryptic and Templar degrees are very fine and instructive, but they do not make the Mason any more a Mason than he was when he received the third degree. Therefore when death brings us all to a level, let us use the burial service in which all Masons can participate.”

We could profitably linger with Comp. Foster did space permit. He is an entertainer from “Alpha to Omaha.”

Ambrose A. Burnand, Leadville, Grand High Priest; Ed. C. Parmelee, Denver, Grand Secretary.

Connecticut.

Chapters 38 : Members 4957.

M. E. Comp. Samuel Bassett, Grand High Priest, presided at the Ninety-sixth Annual Convocation which opened in the city of Hartford on the morning of May 8th, 1894, with but one Chapter unrepresented.

In a comparatively brief address the Grand High Priest announced that he visited two Chapters, granted four dispensations, appointed three Grand Represent-

atives, and expressed gratitude that the destroyer had dealt kindly with his jurisdiction.

Alas, little did he, or those whom he addressed dream that one among them, a loved and gifted Companion, would in a few brief months be called away. The name of R. E. Companion Joseph K. Wheeler, Grand Secretary, one of the most zealous Masons in the State was familiar in every jurisdiction, and at this Convocation he was as active and apparently as well as ever, but on the 10th of October he was called.

With Connecticut's bereavement her northern sister deeply sympathises. It will be hard indeed to repair so great a loss, or fill the aching void which a death of such moment must create. The record of Comp. Wheeler's useful and honorable Masonic career will live to be a source of pride and emulation for the Companions whom he so long and so faithfully served.

The reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, deal solely with visitations to Chapters which collectively amount to six. The second officer puts in a novel plea that would indicate his enjoyment of a new experience :

"In November, 1893, I received an invitation to visit Burning Bush Chapter, No. 29, at Essex and inspect the work, but the arrival of a little stranger in my family just previous to that time prevented me from making an official visit, and has also obliged me to forego the pleasure of making visits to other Chapters which had been assigned me."

White winged peace seems to smile on the Nutmeg State for the Committees on Grievances and Jurisprudence reported that there was nothing for them to do.

The following resolution was adopted :

"That no Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction of thirty years good and regular standing, shall be subject to discipline for non-payment of dues ; and no Chapter in this jurisdiction shall be required to pay a per capita tax to the Grand Chapter upon any of its members who have been thirty years in good and regular standing, or who have left the jurisdiction and not been heard from for five preceding years."

Comp. Barlow's report on Correspondence is pleasant and instructive reading. His quick eye seems to light on all the tit-bits that will prove most palatable. Under Tennessee he reproduces the late Comp. Connor's opinion of the P. M. degree.

"And for a purpose we give one answer. It should be ridiculed because it is usually a farce, and therefore a scandal on Capitular Masonry. I have been a "Son of Malta" and a member of three like farcial societies, but I have seen as many absurd and ridiculous pranks played in the Past Master's degree as I ever saw in either of the foregoing. The "degree" is not a degree of Masonry, and should be cast out as meaningless. There is not a lesson it imparts, or a duty it inculcates but may be introduced in the installation of a Master. It originated in a trick to appear to pass the chair, and thereby increase the number of eligible candidates for the Royal Arch."

To Pennsylvania's emphatic objection to installation in public he says :

"From our experience we are compelled to disagree, and think that an occasional public installation properly conducted is beneficial in its results. This leads us to inquire as to Masonic burials. Are they allowed in this jurisdiction? If so, they must necessarily be in the presence of the profane."

And on the constantly recurring question of physical perfection he has this to say of the Nevada resolution which provides "that an applicant for the Chapter degrees shall be a Master Mason in good standing, affiliated with some lodge. He shall be whole and sound, not deformed or dismembered."

"What is deformed? We do not believe that the loss of a thumb nail or a little toe constitute deformity, but only when he is physically unable to comply literally with all the requirements of the several degrees, should he be termed deformed in the sense meant by the spirit at least of the regulation."

Quoting Missouri's comment on the regulation enacted by Delaware, permitting the High Priest of a Chapter to open and close in the subordinate degrees in "the short way," he says :

"We are reminded of the Master of a certain lodge, not very proficient in the lectures and histories, when arriving at that point would usually say to the candidate, 'There is a lecture connected with this degree but owing to the lateness of the hour, we shall be compelled to omit it,' and this explanation was usually given whether the hour was eight or eleven."

It is an old familiar friend who is revealed in the above, and one who will doubtless be recognized by many readers.

He devotes a page to Canada, quoting, among other matters, the resolution abolishing the Past Masters' degree, but refrains from comment thereon.

Referring to the refusal to recognize the Grand Chapter of Victoria, he says:

"This Grand Chapter (Canada) has been and is planting Chapters in that colony which are not recognized by the Grand Chapter of Victoria. We fear this is the beginning of another Quebec trouble which should have been avoided."

This, of course, is a glimpse of ourselves as others see us. It is a matter for regret that the very clear explanation of the origin and continuance of the "trouble" submitted in a previous report should have escaped the observant notice of Comp. Barlow and of others who, like him, would condemn before hearing the evidence. It is natural that the action of Canada in assisting the neglected Companions at the antipodes should appear at first sight an amazing stretch of authority, but a knowledge of the circumstances leading up to it would at once dispel that assumption. Canada's justification is already found in the creation and activity of this so called Grand Chapter of Victoria, and when the latter shall wake up to a realization of the permanent value which her sister colony has affected, she will probably be quick to make due acknowledgment, and the "invasion" will then be understood and appreciated by those who are now so willing to criticize our failure to recognize.

Isaiah Baker, jr., Hartford, Grand High Priest;
 ————— Grand Secretary.

Delaware.

Chapters 4; Members, 583.

At Wilmington, on the 16th January, 1895, the Ninety-seventh Annual Convocation was called to order by M. E. George W. Andrews, Grand High Priest, who in a brief address, congratulated Grand Chapter on a healthy, if not a prodigious growth.

"In connection with this let me call your attention to the danger of over-zealousness in our endeavors to advance the interest of our Craft. Let us not overstep the bounds of good judgment in our desires to increase the number of members of our respective Chapters, but exercise that vigilance which is the high road to the success of all organizations."

He recommended subordinate Chapters to consider

sider the advisability of exempting from dues all Companions who had retained their membership for twenty-one years, and Grand Chapter by resolution supported the recommendation

Comp. Virginius V. Harrison, the Correspondence reviewer, presented a capital report, as one might naturally expect from a Companion with two Vs to his name.

Referring to compulsory attendance at Chapter meetings, he observes under Arkansas :

"If a Companion has not sufficient interest in his Chapter to attend its meetings once in a while, his compulsory attendance would not benefit the Chapter. It is our experience (and we have had more than twenty years of it) that a certain number of old "stand-bys" have to look out for the interest of the bodies, for which they are many times dubbed a "ring" by other ambitious but incompetent members. All organized bodies owe their success to rings of this kind."

Just so. "As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be."

In a pleasant review of Canada he says:

"They have reduced their fee to ten dollars (\$10.00) which no doubt accounts for this large 'accession.' Too cheap, Companions; twenty dollars is little enough. Twenty-five is the right figure."

He also says that 'very few Chapters pay any attention to the recording of Marks.' Same old story everywhere. Why not issue an edict compelling Companions to select and record their Marks?"

And of the resolution to wipe out the Past Master's degree he pats us on the back thus wise :

"This is a move in the right direction. This degree does not of right belong to the Chapter. We hope to see the time when it will take its place where it belongs, under the authority of the Grand Lodge."

It however, does not belong to the Grand Lodge nor to anything else. When it goes, it goes for good.

He commends the resolution providing for the examination of a Z. elect, by a Board of Past First Principals saying : "It has the proper ring and we recommend it to the consideration of others."

On the question of the necessity of a Chapter member being also a member of a blue lodge, he pronounces unmistakably.

"This is a point that we think Masonry should be a union. No Companion throughout the broad land should be permitted to enjoy membership in a Chapter who does not contribute to the support of a blue lodge. The Chapter is indebted to the blue lodge for every stone in her structure, for her very life and being; then do not let us sting the hand that warmed us to life, but throw around it all the protection within our power."

A Minnesota decision that a member S. N. P. D. should, in addition to payment of arrears, pass a unanimous ballot before being restored elicits this in which we heartily agree :

"We think this a little severe. If a member suspended for non-payment of dues, comes forward and pays his dues, we think that he has paid the penalty for which he was suspended, and should be restored to membership, without further action of the Chapter."

Of the sixteen Grand officers, elected and appointed for the next year, fifteen are from Wilmington. A "hiving" of this sort in some jurisdictions of our acquaintance would create something little short of an earthquake.

Eugene Massey, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.
James H. Price, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

District of Columbia.

Chapters, 10 ; Members, 2140.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation was held at Washington, Dec. 12th, 1894. M. E. Comp. Geo. H. Walker, Grand High Priest, presided, and in his address reported a marked improvement in the financial condition of the Chapters, but the net increase in membership was only fourteen, owing to the numerous suspensions, dismissions and deaths. He regretted the repeal of a statute which imposed a tax of five dollars for each exaltation, and attributed to that cause, an attenuated treasury.

Application was made to him for authority to confer the degrees upon a brother whose left leg had been amputated below the knee, but who wore an artificial limb so well constructed and fitted that he could place it "in any position possible for a natural member." Under such conditions the Grand High

Priest could see no objection, as "the physical qualification necessary in a candidate for the degrees is, that he shall be able to conform literally to what the several degrees respectively require of him." This ruling was discussed by the General Grand Chapter but not affirmed.

Of the matter of the "Grand Chapter of Victoria" he said :

"Some months ago printed communications were recieved from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Victoria, announcing the severance of relations between that body and the Grand Chapter of Canada because of an alleged invasion of jurisdiction in establishing subordinate Chapters by the latter body. Inasmuch as the matter of relationship of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria and this Grand Chapter is now before the Committee on Jurisprudence, I have referred to that Committee the said communications."

Diligent search through the Proceedings failed to discover anything from the Committee of Jurisprudence relating to the communications aforesaid, or the Grand High Priest's reference thereto.

The Committee on Grievances reported that there was no occasion to hold any formal meeting during the year.

An amendment to strike from the Constitution the clause making it imperative on a candidate for the office of High Priest to be familiar with and to work all the degrees, was very properly rejected.

A very interesting digest of decisions of Past Grand High Priests since organization, compiled by the Committee on Jurisprudence was incorporated with the Proceedings, and must prove of more than passing value to the members of Grand Chapter.

Comp. R. W. Singleton's report on Correspondence is a careful and concise review of the Proceedings of forty-five Grand Chapters, from which Canada is not omitted. Referring to the reports of our Grand Superintendents, he says :

"They show clearly that they were faithful in the discharge of their duties, and that great prosperity is manifest in that jurisdiction in Royal Arch Masonry. We don't remember having ever seen so minute and careful attention to these very important matters as displayed in these reports, there being seventeen."

We gladly quote a few remarks which under Mississippi he addresses to the reviewer. On this as on other vital questions, Comp. Singleton's head is level.

"Let us within the "vails" always act fraternally to all our Brethren, and the outsiders *will* come in and pay their just dues to Lodge and Chapter. We believe that much of the unaffiliation among Lodge and Chapter Masons is due to the unfraternal feeling manifested by members who are within the Lodge and Chapter; and a conciliatory feeling and action of the officers and members will bring within the fold those who are without. We write from our experience on this point, and know of what we affirm. Some years since a Brother of one of our Lodges who had acted as Secretary, went away for a time, and then returned to this city. He was again elected as Secretary. Upon examination of the books he found a large number of the old members who had suffered themselves to be dropped for n. p. d. He remarked to us that he would get *every* one of them back, as they were all good men and true, and that some untoward circumstances must have caused them to be thus circumstanced. Accordingly, in the best spirit, prompted by brotherly kindness, he addressed to each one a friendly letter, and the result was that every one of them came forward and paid their dues and were reinstated. We say to those who cavil at these dropped or unaffiliated Brethren, "Go, thou, and do likewise." Instead of traducing our Brethren, let us approach them in the spirit of brotherly affection, and we guarantee that in nine cases out of ten we shall reclaim our brethren."

Again under Quebec, alluding to Comp. Chambers' contention that the Master Mason should be urged to seek for the "genuine secrets," he says:

"Several years ago in our report we urged the same thing, and were taken severely to task by some of our "weak kneed" Companions, who look upon Master Masons, we presume, as Master Masons do upon profanes. Now, Comp. Chambers takes the correct view. They are our Brethren supposed to be in search of more light, and they should be pointed the correct way to obtain perfect light in Masonry.

Within very few days, in conversation with a young Master Mason, he told us he thought he had received all the necessary light in Masonry—supposed he had the true—and was much surprised to learn that he was not a Master in Masonic light; that what he had received was but a substitute for something which it was right and proper for him to obtain by suitable efforts. The M. E. Master's degree teaches us who have attained to it, that *we* are to impart true Masonic light and knowledge to our less informed Brethren. Do we always comply with this obligation? We fear not."

Referring to the case of a Wisconsin Companion, who, after having been found guilty of swindling, coolly requested his demit; he wisely says:

“There is often a disposition in Masonic bodies to avoid the trouble and annoyance connected with a trial, and if a member of bad character asks for a dimission the members are too glad to get rid of him without a trial, forgetting that they thereby shift him over to some other Body where by their certificate of good standing they are morally, and should be *Masonically* responsible for having thus deceived the Fraternity at large. A “certificate of good standing” is an *endorsement*, which on a note renders the *endorser* responsible.”

Frank L. Campbell, Washington, Grand High Priest; Lewis G. Stephens, Washington, Grand Secretary.

Florida.

Chapters 19; Members 594.

M. E. Comp. Silas B. Wright presided over the Forty-eighth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, held in the city of Jacksonville on 8th May, 1894, and notwithstanding that but a little over a score of members were present, the proceedings were conducted with all the decorum and dignity which the age and standing of the body demanded.

The Treasurer's report showed that there was a balance on hand of \$797.15, after paying salaries \$115, mileage and per diem, \$130, and printing, \$130.

The Grand High Priest presented an address which bears evidence of his personal zeal in the craft. He takes up the “Mark” question and suggests that a rule be adopted requiring that a selection of such should be made before the candidate receives the R. A. Degree. He likewise deplores the want of uniformity in working, and recommends the ritual adopted by General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary's report attributed the absence of the “hoped for increase in the number of new Chapters” to the “continued financial pressure,” a condition of affairs which seems to be universal.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for a similiar reason expressed regret that they could not “indulge in the luxury” of an extended report but submitted a few pages of reply to comments of other reviewers on local matters criticized by them. The payroll, mileage and per diem, amounting to \$195.65, was however duly initialled.

A dispensation for a new Chapter at Apalachicola was issued shortly after the close of Grand Chapter, and the Grand Secretary looked for the formation of two others before the year was out.

William M. McIntosh, Tallahassee, Grand High Priest; W. A. McLean, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

1895.

On May 14th last Jacksonville again saw the Annual Convocation, the attendance being about the same as the preceding year. Comp. McIntosh, Grand High Priest, after a few words of introduction, confined his address strictly to business, and neither wearied his hearers nor held out much hope for the printer.

In addition to the Chapter U. D. Apalachicola, referred to in previous report, two other applications from Daytona and Live Oak were favorably entertained by him.

Former members of Lake Butler Chapter, dormant, petitioned to have the Chapter restored. He acceded, and issued a dispensation to elect and instal officers.

The seal of approval he thus modestly affixes to his achievement.

"From information received through the Grand Secretary's office, there can be no doubt but that the action of the Grand High Priest in the premises was eminently proper."

From the Grand Secretary's report it is gathered that the questionable practice of exchanging warrants is not unknown in Florida.

"Mt. Moriah Chapter No. 21, applies by petition for a change of name and number, for reasons stated in a communication accompanying the petition. They desire that No. 6 be assigned to them, and this number being vacant, there will be no difficulty in complying with this part of their request, should the Grand Chapter deem it proper to make the desired change."

Grand Chapter apparently did deem it proper, but does not this give to the members of the petitioning Chapter an antiquity they have no legal claim to? What makes the action appear stranger still to foreign eyes, is the resolution subsequently adopted by Grand Chapter, to wit:

"Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6, is authorized to retain possession

of the former charters of Santa Rosa Chapter No. 6, Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 11, and Mt. Moriah Chapter No. 24, as the present membership of Mt. Horeb Chapter No. 6, located at Pensacola, Florida, includes the former members of the three Chapters."

Two Chapters failed to pay up, but one having represented that its funds were swallowed up in the collapse of a bank, was dealt with leniently.

It was decided to celebrate the semi-centennial of the Grand Chapter next year with befitting ceremony.

The revised code of regulations was adopted. There is an elasticity about some of its provisions that strike those accustomed to the iron bound variety as novel. For instance :

"While it is the duty of every Mason to be a member of some Lodge, the fact of his holding a dimit does not affect his standing in the Chapter for at least twelve months ; and we are of the opinion that even after that time, if he continues to be of good moral character, he should still be regarded in good standing in the Chapter, provided his failure to affiliate with a Lodge is not wilful, but should be the result of circumstances over which he had no control."

That the Companions of Florida are not too much enamoured of the Past Master's degree may be inferred from the following :

"The degree of Past Master, as conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter, is not cognizable in a Blue Lodge."

"The Chapters under this Jurisdiction are required, in conferring the Past Masters' Degree, to abridge the ceremonies within the narrowest constitutional limits, and to use those prescribed in the Ritual."

"A Past Master by degree, who has never been a Master of a Symbolic Lodge cannot be present at conferring the Past Masters' Degree upon Masters of Symbolic Lodges."

"The degree of Past Master is conferred in a Chapter only for the purpose of qualifying the applicant to take the degree of Royal Arch."

The qualifications for an applicant of the Chapter degrees are embraced in the following :

"No Chapter within this Jurisdiction shall receive the petition of a Master Mason for advancement in the Chapter degrees who is not a regular member of some Lodge, and in good standing, who has paid all dues against him, and made due proficiency in the Symbolic degrees, of which he shall produce satisfactory evidence from the Secretary of the Lodge of which he is a member before he is balloted for."

We fail to see how the secretary of the Lodge can

be called upon to furnish a certificate as to proficiency. Is not Grand Chapter stepping just a little beyond its limit?

John H. Stephens, Jacksonville, Grand High Priest;
W. A. McLean, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

Georgia.

Chapters 88; Members 3,400.

The Seventy-second Annual Convocation was held in the City of Macon, on 25th April, 1894.

M. E. Comp. J. W. Taylor, Grand High Priest, read a thoughtfully prepared and scholarly address. He congratulated Grand Chapter on its prosperity, and said:

"I am very much gratified to report that the intellectual condition of the Craft is such that my time has been taxed but very little in answering questions relative to Masonic law. There appears to be a tendency among the High Priests in the entire Jurisdiction to familiarize themselves with the edicts, rulings and decisions of Capitular Masonry, to such an extent that their Chapters are well up in this important matter, tenaciously adhering to the ancient landmarks with unalterable fidelity. This is well, and is the primary cause of our unprecedented success and wonderful harmony."

Included in his decisions is the following:

"Can a Chapter entertain the application of a Master Mason in good standing, whose membership is in another State, though he lives in Georgia?"

"It can. Masonry is universal, and a Symbolic Mason in good standing in any other State is equally in good standing in Georgia."

He devotes considerable attention to the "open letter" of an anonymous correspondent of a Masonic journal, which purported to call his attention to certain unauthorized conduct practised, as the writer alleged, in several Chapters of the jurisdiction. The Grand High Priest being himself a frequent visitor and having reports from a number of his officers, vigorously defended the Chapters under his rule, and administered a well merited rebuke to the writer for the unfraternal and pusilanimous method adopted by him to air an unfounded complaint. "Enemies outside our Order

are not to be feared, but those within our circle are to be avoided."

The proper way, however, to treat an enemy of that kind is with silent contempt.

The applications for seven new charters were endorsed. Comp. Ramsay's report on Correspondence culls, with useful comment, the Proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters. He makes it thirty-seven, but although Canada is included in his list it is unfortunately omitted from its place in the body of the report. Nevertheless to accompany him on his review of the others was a pleasant and instructive trip.

Under Texas he offers the following opinion on the ruling of the Grand High Priest that a candidate who had lost a finger from the right hand was ineligible for the Chapter degrees :

"This rule might be insisted upon by sticklers for fancied landmarks in Symbolic Masonry, but how it can be made to apply to Capitular Masonry is a mystery to this committee. The Chapter does not pretend to enforce the idea that it is based on Operative Masonry. It is entirely speculative and purely modern, hence the 'rule laid down by the Grand Lodge' cannot apply to the 'government of Chapters. If a candidate can comply with the requirements in conferring the degrees no objection should be urged by reason of physical defect if he is otherwise worthy. We may carry the 'perfect youth' idea with some reason in our Blue Lodges, but in no sense can we apply it to an order that is in its entire inception speculative."

In his conclusion Comp. Ramsay pays a touching fraternal tribute to the memory of the late Grand Master of Georgia, John S. Davidson :

"The light of the brightest star in our Masonic galaxy is gone out ; the Moses who led us through the wilderness of gloom and despondency and debt, to the promised sunlight of rejoicing and freedom, has ascended Pizgah, to return no more to the Encampment. Israel's God, whom he loved and in whom he trusted, kissed away his soul, and his body lies west of the Temple. His spirit rejoices with the kindred spirits who, in the full blaze of the altar lights on earth, exclaimed, 'His mercy endureth forever ;' now with voices attuned to the melody of Heaven, before the blazing Throne of the Eternal Three, exclaim: 'Death hath no more dominion over me.' "

"But we will not write his obituary, that task will be committed to worthier hands ; but no pen can portray his many

eminent virtues; no tongue can tell the irreparable loss to Masonry in Georgia, in the death of our beloved Companion."

James W. Taylor, Luthersville, Grand High Priest ;
Andrew M. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

Illinois.

Chapters 184 ; Members, 15,846.

On the 25th October, 1894, the Grand Chapter of Illinois assembled in Forty-fifth Annual Convocation in the Chicago Masonic Temple. M. E. Comp. J. W. Hutchinson, Grand High Priest, who presided, delivered an address mainly characterized by its terse devotion to business. He decided :

"That it is the duty of the High Priest to open and close his Chapter in the full form prescribed by the Ritual, in conformity with the Grand Chapter by-laws, except in cases of emergency."

The concluding five words will probably be found convenient now and again. Also,

"That no Companion can enforce the payment of a claim that has been rejected by a Chapter, by withholding his dues for the purpose of applying them on such claim ; he must pay his dues in order to keep his standing good in the Chapter, and attempt to collect his claim in some other manner."

A provision that should be needless, although there are Companions in almost every jurisdiction who, having claims upon their Chapter, would naturally object to paying where they ought to be receiving.

He recommends the appointment of three Grand Lecturers to hold three schools of instruction in different parts of the State. With so many Chapters this would appear to be a necessity. The reports of two Grand Lecturers in these Proceedings tell of but four or five visitations, altogether from which it may be inferred that the remaining 180 are well equipped. This is borne out by the reports of some of the other Grand officers, notably the Masters of Veils, Grand P. S., and Captain of the Host, who have not been "called upon" to make official visits and hence conclude that "peace and harmony prevail."

The committee to whom was referred the "Doings of the Grand officers" reported among other things as follows:—

"We note with pleasure that the M. E. Grand High Priest has visited several of the Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction. Such visitations are beneficial, and we hope that the example of our present M. E. Grand High Priest will be followed by his successors."

The veteran Craftsman Theodore A. Parvin, of Iowa, was introduced as a visitor, and received a fitting welcome. In his reply he said :

"I went to Iowa a beardless boy. I have seen it grow up around me. I have seen the introduction of Masonry within its limits, and in its growth it has assumed great proportions. I have observed this, which is a matter of interest to you all, and to all of us good people, that Masonry has been one of the grandest elements in the civilization of the West."

The Grand Treasurer's statement showed the Grand Chapter to be in a singularly prosperous condition. New South Wales was recognized.

Comp. John Pearson presents the report on Correspondence, which embraces 125 pages, three of which he devotes to Canada, culling those features from our Proceedings of 1893 which bear on the matter of the Australian Chapters. He says :

"We have given this full account of affairs, because the application of the Grand Chapter of Victoria is now pending before our Grand Chapter. When these subordinates were first chartered, we ventured to criticize the action as tending to weaken the already strained relations, and our fears seem to have been realized and it now appears as if nothing but long time would effect the remedy."

Not "long time" Comp. Pearson, but the final realization by our Victorian Companions, that Canada's "invasion" was not one of conquest, but rather of mercy. Canada has no desire to remain in possession one moment longer than will furnish the assurance that the justice which is due the neglected Companions whom she hastened to relieve, has been meted out to them. Even now the olive branch is being extended and none will rejoice more willingly at the reconciliation, which it is hoped is at hand, than Canada.

He is inclined to object to our system of dual membership, which occasionally, as in the case he refers to, presents an awkward phase of the subject, but it is rare that such occurs. In a country of colossal possibilities and magnificent distances like Canada where enterprise

demands room and is invariably accommodated, the existence of an "evil" of this nature often turns out a blessing. Dual membership has not yet trodden on our corns; when it does it will be thrown out. Meantime we are not afflicted with corns.

W. L. Milligan, Ottawa, Grand High Priest; G. W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

Indiana.

Chapters 90; Members 6,315.

M. E. Comp. Orlando W. Brownback, Grand High Priest, presided at the Forty-ninth Annual Convocation, held in Indianapolis on the 17th October, 1894, eighty-six Chapters being represented.

The Grand High Priest's address opened with a touching reference to the lamented and tragic death of Past Grand High Priest Reuben Peden, who had been a devoted Mason for nearly half a century, and who was accidentally killed by a train at Knightstown.

A dispensation for a new Chapter was granted. He directed the arrest of another which had become dormant and one was restored.

He appointed R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Waugh, of Stratford, Ontario, the Representative of Indiana near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The following are among his decisions:

"A Lodge of Master Masons installed their Master without having the Past Master's degree conferred upon him. Shall I now, after proper notification and application, confer the Past Master's degree upon the said Master?"

"So far as Chapters are officially concerned, we have nothing to do with conferring the Past Master's degree upon a Master elect of a Blue Lodge. To receive the Past Master's degree in the Chapter, it must be upon application for the four degrees recognized by the Grand Chapter."

"Should not the Past Master's degree be confined wholly to the reception, obligation, communication and explanation?"

"Yes. To make this degree—or any degree—impressive, no levity should be permitted, and the ceremonies should be confined to the narrowest constitutional limits. Chapters are not circuses, and clowns should not be admitted within the sacred precincts to mar the solemnities of our ceremonies."

"Should candidates be subjected to great peril?"

“ No ; a thousand times no ! For what might have been, see page 16, Transactions 1889. An object lesson can readily be learned from injuries alleged to have been received at that time, and any rough usage, by-play, rudeness or perils of any character, kind or description whatever, is positively forbidden, either in reception or return from captivity ; and the abominable and ludicrous practice that unfortunately prevails to some extent throughout the jurisdiction, should and must be broken up, and any High Priest who permits trifling practice or boisterous conduct during the ceremony of conferring degrees deserves immediate suspension from office.”

New South Wales will be recognized, in the future perhaps, but not now. It was decided to postpone indefinitely the application, owing to existing differences with Scotland whose claims Indiana is disposed to support.

A recommendation that the semi-centennial of the Grand Chapter be duly celebrated was concurred in, Comp. Thomas Long to be the orator of the occasion.

M. E. Comp. Joseph Manning, who was elected and installed Grand High Priest, was, sad to relate, summoned to his eternal rest within a fortnight after his elevation to that office. A brief note between mourning lines, written by the Grand Secretary, at the close of the Proceedings announces that the distinguished Companion died on the 26th October and that M. E. Henry Mordhurst, of Fort Wayne, would act in the interval.

Canada unfortunately is not included in the excellent report on Correspondence furnished by Comp. Thomas B. Long. It is a storehouse of information from which many good things might be taken, even though we cannot agree with all his views. His penchant for things historic makes it doubly interesting.

Touching the black ball controversy, he tritely says :

“ It takes time, of course, for a Mason to school himself against excitement and disappointment, as here suggested, but he should learn to do this, even as he is enjoined “ to learn to subdue his passions.” The writer once had a very dear “ friend and brother,” whose warm feelings for personal friends were sometimes seriously wounded by Masonic rejections. His likes and dislikes being equally marked, he would often chafe over such occurrences, but later a well-maintained silence on such subjects led the writer cautiously to approach an instance of the kind, when the brother promptly remarked. ‘ I have quit worrying over any such an occasion. I have been inconsiderate, not to say foolish, about these things in the past. I have taken time

to give the whole subject full and thoughtful consideration, and I have come to the overwhelming conclusion that I have had no right to take exceptions in these cases. The person who casts a black ball has as much right to do so as I have to cast a white one; and I have no right to misconstrue his motives if I know who does it, which is scarcely possible. Much less have I a right promiscuously to charge the brethren with wrong-doing and corruption. It is my Masonic duty to credit them with conscientious and honorable motives, just as I shall expect them to give me the same credit in my own Masonic transactions."

Of the collective ballot he says:

"There are a number of objections to it. One is that in order to keep out an obnoxious and unworthy petitioner a member is compelled to cast a black-ball against one or more petitioners who are in every way desirable and worthy. True, it is a collective black-ball, but it has been cast against the worthy for the time being, and it may prompt someone to do what he should not do when the separate ballots are taken, and what he would not otherwise have done. Another reason is that it is not a legal contemplation of the ballot at all taken into consideration when enactments on the subject were made, and is consequently hostile to both the letter and the spirit of the law. Again, it is a precedent for looseness of procedure that may become a bad example in other directions of business, besides leading to both a perversion of and indifference to the most important of all the transactions of a Masonic meeting."

Under Oregon, referring to a ruling on a Chapter's right to confer the P.M. degree on a Mason without the latter first petitioning the Chapter in the regular way, he submits this startling deliverance which seems to grievously conflict with the decision of the Grand High Priest already quoted, and the Jurisprudence Committee's endorsement of same.

"Well, it is better to tell the truth at all hazards than to try to give exclusive symbolic importance to the degree by insisting that it can only be found lawfully in possession of actual Past Masters of Lodges of Master Masons, and then, at last, be compelled to call in virtual Past Masters, who have never presided over a Symbolic Lodge in their lives, to confer it, even though three actual Past Masters be present. These things are here said, not at all to depreciate the degree under the protection of Symbolic Masonry, but to show all reasonable Masons the force of the existing fact that it is in the lawful possession of both the Lodge and the Chapter, as demonstrated by the interconcessions of Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters everywhere, that they have lawful control of it respectively. *The true procedure of conferring it as a prerequisite to the installation of a Master-elect, who has never received it in a Chapter Lodge, is to have an emergent Lodge congregated by*

three actual Past Masters, and, if neither of these can confer it, then request some virtual Past Master to perform the ceremony. All present under such circumstances are in lawful possession of the degree ; they all meet in an emergent Lodge, that has neither charter, by-laws, seal, nor record, and never can have either. The O. B. employed makes no reference whatever, in this respect, to any Lodge ; its provisions and conditions refer wholly, and only to the question whether the applicant is ' lawfully or constitutionally entitled ' to the degree."

Well, of all the superlative flights yet attempted to elevate the Past Master burlesque this secures the biscuit. You will kindly excuse us, Comp. Long, but we must fain own to a feeling of utter weariness after perusing the above. Whenever we look upon those lines, which we have taken the liberty to transfer to italic, there recurs the fierce temptation to go out into the cold world and strengthen our "innards" by gazing upon the lineaments of some male sample of the human race.

Consider ! There are in many of our sister jurisdictions across the border little armies of young brethren whose loftiest ambition is to climb to the rank of Knighthood with its attendant millinery and display, and to get there too with all the speed possible. There are also thousands who are content to remain with and study the primary degrees and who within that limit can find enough symbolism, precept and history to qualify them for the grand old title of "Freemason." Fancy one of these being assisted to the dignity of the chair by one of the former, and yet the absurd possibility is embraced in Comp. Long's philosophy.

In Canada the distinction between the degree of "Installed Master" in the Blue Lodge, and that which was known as the "Past Master" of the Capitular system, has always been so marked as never to permit in the remotest sense of any difference of opinion. "Past Master," as applied to the degree conferred upon a brother elected to the chair of his Blue Lodge is a misnomer, and when our Companions of the United States realize that fact and begin to call it by its proper name "Installed Master," they will have removed a fruitful source of controversy and trouble. They will be happier still when the "Past Master" is erased from the Chapter curriculum altogether. The traditional author-

ity for its questionable existence is much too thin and is not sufficient to warrant its retention in the light of modern understanding.

On a decision of the Grand High Priest of Tennessee to the effect that "a brother who had received the degree of Past Master in a convocation of actual Past Masters would have to take the degree over again and pay for the same before he could receive the Most Excellent Master's degree," Comp. Long thus comments:

"Which is certainly correct, as a Chapter Lodge of Past Masters is a wholly distinct and separate organization from an emergent Lodge of actual Past Masters, the latter in fact not being an organization in a correct sense of the term."

Which goes to show that consistency in Indiana, as in Wisconsin or elsewhere, is a jewel, if it were only practiced.

Nevertheless, it is reluctantly one parts with Comp. Long, whose work, as a whole, shines all the brighter for possessing, to a prejudiced optic, one little blemish. Hear him reply to one who advocates a "peg-leg" candidate, provided he is of good character:

"The difficulty, however, is not one of *give* and *pay*; it is that the peg leg *can not* comply with the ritual. Some machinery that he has attached to a portion of his body attempts to 'comply with the ritual,' but where the ritual says 'hand' or 'foot,' it refers to a man as he is created in the image of his God, and by that divine being, and not to a machine called 'a hand' or 'a foot' manufactured of wood and iron by man himself. The only way to get around the law that provides that a candidate must be able 'to comply' or 'to comply literally'—for the first expression means as much as the last—with the ceremonies is to change the law by adding to these phrases the words 'physically or with artificial appliances;' and this would be a departure from the landmarks, customs and usages of the Craft so radical as to seriously endanger its future existence. Departures, as radical as this would be, are necessarily insidious. They creep like a worm, at first, but slowly and finally gain the strength of a leviathan. They are pernicious, in that they propagate falsehood, and undermine and destroy one of the cardinal tenets of Masonry, one that somewhere along the line of ritualism is pronounced 'mighty above all things.' Do away with the requirement that the candidate must be able to comply literally with the ceremonies of the degrees, and you may much more readily and much more reasonably, annul the landmark that excludes woman from admission to the Fraternity. If it is the 'mental and moral' qualifications alone that are to be

considered in the case of the cripple, why ignore them both as available in the case of women free from every physical taint or personal blemish? If we cut away from one support, it is an example to abandon another, and finally we would be so far adrift from all moorings as to have not only lost our place in history, but our very identity itself. Dam up this dangerous outlet, before the innocent-looking 'purling brook,' swelled by similar tributaries, becomes an irresistible torrent exhausting its very source, and carrying everything to destruction."

—————, Grand High Priest ; W. H. Smythe,
Indianapolis, Grand Secretary.

Indian Territory.

Chapters 13 ; Members 411.

The Fifth Annual Convocation was held at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Territory, August 16th, 1894, under the presidency of M. E. Leo. E. Bennett, Grand High Priest, who in his address rejoiced in the quality that characterized the very visible increase in the membership in the two territories during the year, notwithstanding that he had declined to consider applications for dispensations to form new Chapters.

"There are," he said, "nine or more good Companions at several towns; some of whom think they ought to have Chapters in their midst, but it has been my observation that it takes more than nine graduated Companions to bring success to a new Chapter." This, as the woolly Westerner would say, is "good horse sense."

The Grievances and Jurisprudence Committees reported "nothing to do," and the Finance Committee recommended \$175 for the Grand Secretary, there being a balance of \$640 on hand.

To the absence of Past Grand High Priest Hill was attributed the lack of a report on Correspondence. The Grand Secretary was appointed to do the duty for the coming year.

To the "eloquent" invitation of the local Chapter to partake of refreshment after labour, the Deputy Grand High Priest responded with equal eloquence, and the compiler merrily adds, "Indian Territory Masons heap like him Oklohama brethren."

Selwyn Douglas, Oklahoma City, Grand High Priest;
J. S. Murrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary.

Iowa.

Chapters 115 ; Members 6,937.

In Sioux City the Forty-first Annual Convocation was opened on 26th September, 1894, M. E. Frederick W. Craig, Grand High Priest, presiding over the representatives of eighty-nine Chapters. In his address which was lengthy, he truly uttered the opinions of many when he expressed regret that the Chapter is too frequently regarded as a stepping stone to the Commandery.

Under the protection of this jurisdiction the Cryptic degrees are worked, and as an additional incentive to industry there is a "Hindoo Theology," whatever that may be. No reference to the "Shrine" can be discovered, though why Arabic should be excluded in favor of Hindustanee only the mighty Sahib of Iowa can say.

The confession of Iowa's idolatrous practices reminds the writer of an ardent Brother who many years ago aspired to the chair of his Lodge, and who to qualify for the position secured a little book which he had morocco bound and gilt lettered on the outside, "Parliamentary Practice." His ambitious better half of course made it her business to examine the title surreptitiously, and chuckled. Her opportunity came at an evening party, when she proudly announced, to everybody's amazement and his confusion, that her husband was preparing to run for the legislature. She knew it because he was studying parliamentary procedure in all his spare hours and even took the book to bed with him. Among the amused auditors were several brethren "who knew," and as they dearly loved a joke it was many moons after poor John was a P. M. that he heard the last of it. It is appalling to contemplate what the good wife would have fancied had it been "Hindoo Theology" she discovered. The dreams of a possible legislator's wife were rosy; to be the spouse of a missionary would have given her nightmare.

The Grand High Priest regrets that difficulty is experienced in keeping tab on members suspended in their Lodges who continue to enjoy the advantages of the Chapter, and refers to a communication addressed

to him by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, in which he said :

“ You will, I am sure, appreciate the efforts being made to decrease our great army of non-affiliates. The action had by the Grand Lodge in thus placing non-affiliates beyond the reach of Masonic rights and privileges, as also in the adoption of the above resolution, was practically, or quite, unanimous. If the body of which you are the official head should take such action as to deny the right of membership to non-affiliates in Blue Lodges, it is believed it would have a most beneficial effect upon Blue Lodge Masonry, and it seems to me upon Templary as well.”

He found that the adopted report of a Committee recommending the abolition of the Grand Representative system was in conflict with an unrepealed law, and very properly he stayed with the latter. Furthermore, he suggested that his successor be instructed to make appointments as usual, claiming that the Grand Chapter of Iowa should not lead in a crusade against a system that had become almost universal, was harmless, pleasant and profitable, and afforded opportunities to exchange fraternal courtesies and greetings.

The suggestion of the Grand High Priest was cordially endorsed by the Committee appointed to consider the address, and its report was adopted by Grand Chapter, a result gratifying to the writer who for five years has represented Iowa near his own Grand Chapter, and has ever esteemed it a high honor. True, we have on more than one occasion been sought out as a target for the pointed shafts of Iowa's facetious reviewer, but as he aims with a most fraternal lack of discrimination—on the plan of the Irishman who hit wherever he saw a head—and as we have been entrusted with a further lease of confidence, which, by the way is hereby gratefully acknowledged, we can afford to deal generously with a Companion who regards everything within sight, and especially Iowa's representatives abroad, as legitimate game for his trusty arrow.

Two cases of violation of jurisdiction were submitted to the appeals of the Committee and in both, the offending Chapters were mulcted in the amount received for initiation fees. Two new charters and one dispensation were approved.

Comp. Ercanbrack prefaces his lively report on Correspondence with this characteristic introduction :

“ The lack of the sensational in our story is not a sufficient reason why it should not be read by those for whom it is intended.

“ Whatever the reading of this report may seem like, its preparation has been as serene as a moonlight ride on a sea of oil.”

To Colorado who ventures the opinion that he “ seldom entered into controversy,” he says :

“ This reminds us of Shakespeare’s illustrious catalogue of controversial styles : ‘ The retort courteous, the quip modest, the reply churlish, the reproof valiant, the countercheck quarrelsome, the lie with circumstance, the lie direct.’

“ As a reviewer we never employ more than the first two. As a lawyer we at times make requisition on the whole arsenal !”

His *bete noir* the Grand Representative of Iowa, no matter what the distance or obstacles ahead, he hunts down with unerring sagacity. Mark his loving solicitude in the following delicate attentions :

Although he “ experiences a kindly feeling ” whenever he pronounces the name Connecticut, he thus addresses his representative in that State.

“ Among the long array of ‘ Grand Representatives ’ present we proudly read ‘ Samuel S. Lamb, Iowa.’ It will be sadly sad when next year Iowa surrenders her claim on Samuel Lamb.”

Thus he refers to him of Nebraska :

“ Our Grand Representative, Companion John W. Mitchell, was so busy professionally treating ‘ la grippe,’ at Superior, that his attendance at York would have been perilous to his patients. All right, Dr. Mitchell, Iowa, rejoices that you did your duty. As the best men cannot be spared from the scene of active labor, Iowa sensibly withdraws from the representative business.”

To the North Carolina Companion he presents his fraternal compliments as follows :

“ It will be remembered that for several years we have been sighing to know something of our North Carolina Grand Representative, who has been officially announced as ‘ Samuel Northrop, Raleigh.’

“ As Iowa is about to discharge its whole corps of Representatives, we shall be compelled to permit our beloved Samuel to also ‘ pass on.’ ”

Of the Companion in South Carolina he is lamentably silent, albeit the traditional connection, but to little Rhody's representative he sends greeting :

"Our Grand Representative, William N. Ackley, of Warren, nobly plied his vocation and ignored the annual convocation entirely ! Well done, my boy ; if you have not lost your Iowa commission you may return it if you want to. It will soon be a very dead letter anyhow."

And Wisconsin's unhappy Iowan he salutes in this cheerful strain :

"We will not murmur at the absence of our Wisconsin Representative, Charles P. Whitford, as the Wisconsin representative in Iowa, Dr. Edward A. Guilbert, has failed to appear for several years. The time will soon come when Companion Whitford will be under no obligation, Masonic or otherwise, to appear for Iowa at Milwaukee or anywhere else."

How affectionate, how touching, and doubtless they each and all felt it so, as one after another they are pleasantly remembered and disposed of without even a quotation to salve the wound, or a poetic line to comfort them in exile.

The pity of it is that the Correspondence report was printed in advance of the Proceedings. Little did the reporter wot of the Nemesis on his trail. His comprehensive sapience failed him just for once, and now, if through the open windows of that sacred legal sanctum in Anamosa, there are borne on the summer zephyrs the echoes of "representative" merriment from north, south, east and west, it is just within the bounds of possibility that no one will be more tickled than Comp. Ercanbrack. It was a rare, funny petard he had fashioned, but it went off too soon.

Exhilarating reading throughout is Comp. Ercanbrack's report ; not a dull line in it. Canada by some mischance is omitted, though regret at its absence is tempered by a feeling of relief that the representative escapes for a season the periodical "whack."

Amos N. Alberson, Washington, Grand High Priest ; Alf. Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

Kansas.

Chapters 81 : Members 5,029.

M. E. Bestor G. Brown, Grand High Priest, presided over the Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation, held in Topeka, February 19, 1894, and although "the mutations of fortune" compelled his absence from the State for a considerable period, he nevertheless presented a neat and instructive address.

The preparation of a new code of laws enabled him to steer clear of "decisions." Some person however in the course of his round of duty, asked him whether a Mason was a humanitarian or not, an enquiry he disposed of, (to the person,) by "refusing to recognize an apparently captious spirit." The captious one will doubtless be well pleased to know that a page or more of the Grand High Priest's address was devoted to the matter.

He made the discovery during his incumbency that "some members of the Craft were not in accord with the true principles which underlie our great institution," and it furnished him with the opportunity of contributing a very nice chapter on "Mason's Duty." The Grand High Priest cannot, it must be admitted, claim originality for his find. The year of the discovery in this respect is somewhat remote, if history is to be relied upon.

The Grand Treasurer was empowered by motion to hand over to the Masonic Home a sum of three thousand dollars.

The new code of laws is printed with the Proceedings, and seems to embrace everything concisely. Having defined the duty of Chapter Officers severally, the Companions are thus dealt with :

"The members shall perform such duties as may be required of them, by general usage, or specially assigned to them, by order of the High Priest or Chapter."

"It is their duty to reverence God, to keep His commandments, to observe the moral law, and to be humane, charitable and just to their neighbors and to all men."

"It is their duty to conform to and obey the laws of the country in which they may reside, to support and enforce the regulations of Capitular Masonry, and to defend, maintain and extend the honor of its name."

“Provided, they shall observe and obey the lawful orders of those who have been chosen to govern them, pay due respect to the constituted authorities, and sustain, each for himself, the character of Royal Arch Masonry.”

One new Chapter was added. There was no report on Correspondence.

Robt. E. Nickles, Salina, Grand High Priest: Jacob De Witt, Salina, Grand Secretary.

1895.

The Thirtieth Convocation at Topeka was presided over by Grand High Priest Nickles, who congratulated Grand Chapter on a year of prosperity, Three new Chapters were added.

He very promptly called down a Chapter which had generously remitted all dues for three years and refunded to members who had paid for that period. One of his decisions reads:

“A brother who has received the Royal Arch Degree in a Lodge, desiring to become a Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction must petition for the Capitular degrees. If his petition is accepted, confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master in due form, then obligate him in the Royal Arch Degree, and this will make him a member in good standing of the Chapter accepting his petition.”

It is a pity the Grand High Priest omitted to state what kind of a Lodge it was that conferred the Royal Arch degree on the brother referred to.

A couple of pages are devoted to “Necrology,” a duty, by the way, which also falls to the lot of a committee appointed for that purpose. If the Grand High Priest suitably voices the sentiment of Grand Chapter in paying a fitting tribute to departed Companions, it seems a doubtful compliment to ask a committee to improve on it. That one or other should undertake it is reasonably expected, but the effect is impaired when the changes are rung on the same sad theme.

In the Grand Secretary’s report aid is solicited for the Masonic Collectors’ Association which is composed of the leading Grand Secretaries of the Craft, and among whom we recognize our own J. J. Mason.

“Their purpose and object is to assist in completing and gathering Masonic literature, furnishing by purchase and

exchange missing numbers of Proceedings; thus enabling the Masonic bodies to complete their files, even in some cases going to the expense of reprinting rare copies of such Proceedings. Their chief source of revenue is in the subscription of their members."

It was decided to reduce the minimum fee for the Chapter degrees from forty to thirty dollars.

The practice of spending fifty or sixty dollars annually on buttons or badges to be worn at Convocations of Grand Chapter was reported against by the Finance Committee, and their view of the matter was accepted. Nevertheless there are Companions in Kansas who will feel insufficiently clothed without that button.

We are reviewing the advance copy of the Proceedings, the only one to hand and which did not include the report on Correspondence presented by Comp. De Witt, an omission we profoundly regret.

John H. Spencer, Independence, Grand High Priest;
Jacob De Witt, Salina, Grand Secretary.

Kentucky.

Chapters 81; Members 2,908.

M. E. William Poyntz Coons, Grand High Priest, presided over the representatives of fifty-six Chapters at the Annual Convocation held in Louisville, on 16th October, 1894. He furnishes ten pages of an address which is mostly of local interest.

To the subject of visitation he devoted "a great deal of reflection," and actually visited three Chapters with intent and one by accident.

Like most of his confreres he speaks doubtingly of the ritual formulated by the General Grand Chapter and like them would prefer

"To rather bear those ills we have,
Than fly to others that we know not of."

Over the financial condition of Grand Chapter he is not hilarious, and refers to two instances of borrowing to meet current expenses. He recommends curtailment in printing the Proceedings, and the shutting out of the report on Correspondence.

From the statement of the committee it appears that the receipts were \$3,072.48, the disbursements \$2,967.95. The latter includes "pay roll, \$1,186.08," or in other words the payment of the expenses of the 62 representatives attending Grand Chapter.

When Kentucky sees its way to following Canada's example and permits the private Chapters to bear the expenses of their own delegates, Grand Chapter will find its treasury in a healthier condition. Meantime it is poor economy to "spoil the sheep for a ha'porth o' tar."

Of Kentucky's pride, the Masonic Home, the Grand High Priest waxes eloquent. It does not appear that Grand Chapter assisted the institution to any considerable extent. How could it? But it is a great matter to possess such a good thing and to be able to express pride in it.

The Grand High Priest decided that the motion for "the previous question" was not in order in a subordinate Chapter. The Jurisprudence Committee, however, thought otherwise, and Grand Chapter supported the Committee.

Comp. Staton's skeleton report on Correspondence is a *multum in parvo*, but too little to satisfy those who know what that Companion is capable of were he given the freedom his facile pen demands.

James D. Lewis, Bowling Green, Grand High Priest;
Henry B. Grant, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

Louisiana.

Chapters 18; Members 934.

Grand High Priest Allen's address to the Forty-eighth Annual Convocation of New Orleans on February 12th, 1895, if not lengthy, was comprehensive and congratulatory, although the Chapter roll is not increased.

"The government of the Royal Craft has not been disturbed by a single serious dissension; peace and unity have prevailed among the Chapters; active energies, begotten of a common purpose and a common hope, have thrilled with renewed life and vigor every vein and artery of our moral polity, bearing forward and onward with a pure and conservative prosperity the cause of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction.

"The Royal Arch of our fraternal fellowship remains unbroken ; no comrade, weary of his burden, has fallen by the wayside, and the living chain of love that unites us has not a single missing link."

Referring to the beneficial effects of visitation by the Grand High Priest, he says :

"By personal inspection he is enabled to obtain that minute information concerning the condition of his subordinates which otherwise he can not have ; and being thus fully informed, he is better enabled to control and give wise direction to the movements of the great army of moral workers under his command."

The precept is admirable, the practice is another matter. "Circumstances over which he had no control" prevented him from recording more than one visit, when on St. John's day, in December, he attended a public installation and where "the libations poured were only in the wine which preserves life and never enervates the brain."

Very decidedly he objects to the introduction of the General Grand Chapter's ritual to the exclusion of that with which his jurisdiction has been familiar. He says in this connection:

"I believe that innovation in the body of Ancient Craft Masonry is vicious and conducive of discord and dissension. It is at least contrary to the spirit and design of the master minds of the workmen who created it. In its establishment they set a high and severe standard for us to work after and preserve, not to change and destroy. They held fast to the purity of the original plan in the face of temptation, captivity and oppression, and against infidelity, persecution and the wrongs of centuries. Through the channel of tradition and oral information that plan has come down to us in its perfectness, and on us, I think, rests the obligation of transmitting it unimpaired to posterity through the same channel.

"Changes in the original plan of the fathers can only result in failure ; and in injury to the chaste and beautiful art they practiced, and the noble moral science they taught."

Comp. Rev. Herman Duncan presents the report on Correspondence, and an excellent report it is. If he passes a Grand Chapter with brief notice, it is because he finds nothing in the Proceedings to interest Louisiana Masons.

Under Arkansas he says :

"We would feign add a word on the subject of writing the Ritual in cipher. There was once a man, whom we are taught

was one of three ancient Grand Masters, whose integrity is exhibited to us as the model for all Masons, an integrity by which they should seek to live and in which they should be ready to die. This man, the same Masonic tradition informs us, committed to writing the most important 'secret' of a Mason—even the word. He did it for the good of the fraternity, that future generations yet unborn might find it, recognize it and use it. He did not do it in such manner that the profane might become cognizant of it—this his obligation forbade. He did not do it in such manner that the secrets of Masonry might thereby be unlawfully obtained. He did it in cipher; he did it in such manner that those entitled to the knowledge might thereby obtain it. In this, Solomon and Hiram, of Tyre, joined and united with him, and became equal participants in his acts. Unless our three ancient Grand Masters had done what they did, wrote the pivotal secret of Masonry, the fear of the King of Israel would have found its fruition and the word would have been forever lost, and, even if found in the future, could not have been recognized for what it was, and is, without the other marks and indications which proclaimed it Masonic."

To Canada he devotes some attention, and on the Australian question says :

"One of the points of contention between the Canadian and English Royal Arch Masons in Victoria has been this, for the preservation of the Mark and Most Excellent Degrees under Capitular control. In consideration of the fact that it is the American system for which the Canadians are contending we are surprised that several American Grand Chapters have recognized the Grand Chapter of Victoria. Of course, this is but one reason, and a minor one, for our surprise. We cannot but think that it has been done without due consideration."

Of our decision to abolish the Past Master's degree he says :

"Canada is not without fault herself. We regret to see that she has stricken out the words 'Past Master' from her constitution, from which we infer that she has ceased to work the degree. Does she not know that if she places herself in the position of the Grand Chapter of England in respect to any of the Degrees of Capitular Masonry as worked in these United States she subjects her members to the same treatment we feel compelled to give English Royal Arch Masons—any one who has not all the six preceding degrees as well as the seventh can not enter our tabernacles, and if he has the seventh, and not the fifth, for example, he must first be healed in that respect."

"However, we may say *en passant*. that if the Canadian brethren will still require the Past Master's Degree as a prerequisite of the Royal Arch, it will not make any difference to us whether it is conferred in Chapter or Lodge. The rest of us are perfectly content to travel with Pennsylvania where this degree is conferred in Lodge. We insist only on its being received from some legitimate authority."

Which goes to show that Comp. Duncan has yet to fully realize that there are not two Past Masters' degrees, and that the prerequisite theory is built on a sandy foundation, and yet it would appear that he entertains a latent idea of the true condition of affairs, for under Oregon he remarks:

"In our opinion, the distinction between the 'Secrets of the Chair' and the 'Degree of Past Master' are as broad as those between the Virtual and the Actual Past Master, and that certain Masons, and those alone, to wit, those who have actually held the gavel by virtue of election and installation in Symbolic Lodges, have the right to communicate the 'Secrets of the Chair' and this without any reference whatever to the positions of such Masons in Chapter, or Council, or Commandery, and conversely, that the Degree of Past Master can only be conferred under authority of a Chartered Chapter in a duly opened Lodge of Past Masters and then only upon Mark Masters duly elected to receive the same."

Though not in prophetic vein we venture to predict that if Comp. Duncan keeps "insisting" on his prerequisite, he will find himself, before a decade has gone, in a hopeless minority.

Of the Mason's Mark he has this to say under Maryland:

"The Grand Chapter determined that it was not only necessary to choose a Mark and record it, but that a picture of it must be drawn in the Book of Marks. We are not sure but this is right. That a Grand Chapter has the right to prescribe the time when the obligation of the Mark Master shall be fulfilled, and that the choosing should be made known and communicated to the Chapter in an official manner we have no doubt. Yet it is the duty of the novitiate to actually draw his Mark, or write the description thereof in a book? We think not. We know that for the appearance sake of the book, none but a penman should be permitted to draw a line in it. Then can we require of a candidate what it is the duty, say of the Secretary, to do? We are inclined to the opinion, therefore, that the Maryland regulation goes a trifle too far when it requires the candidate himself to make his mark in the Book of Marks."

And yet in the pioneer days, before Correspondence reports were invented, our ancient Brethren invariably appended to their signature the Mark which they had themselves selected and which doubtless often proved a means of identification.

A. C. Allen, Franklin, Grand High Priest; Richard Lambert, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

Maine.

Chapters 53 ; Members 5,528.

Ninety representatives attended the Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation at Portland, May 1st, 1894.

Grand High Priest Penley congratulated Grand Chapter that notwithstanding the financial depression, the Chapters showed a steady healthful gain, and the members thereof so well understood the laws that there was no decision of importance to be recorded.

The visitations of the Grand officers were frequent and beneficial, and all report a happy uniformity of working.

The Grand Secretary reported that the duties of the Grand Secretary had been faithfully discharged and the Grand Secretary's work was ready for inspection.

The veteran Comp. Josiah H. Drummond as usual conducted the review of the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters, and as usual it is most acceptable. Touching the granting of charters by Canada to the Companions in Australia, he says :

" We greatly regret the chartering of these Chapters, for we hold that the Grand Chapter of Canada had no more right to charter these Chapters than if they had chartered them in Maine.

The principle of the law of jurisdiction and the concurrence therein of all the other Grand Bodies in America and Great Britain, give to the British Grand Chapters, jurisdiction in the Dependencies of the British Crown concurrent among themselves and *exclusive as to all others*. It follows necessarily that when a Grand Body is formed in one of the Dependencies, it acquires exclusive jurisdiction in its own territory, but takes away the jurisdiction of the mother Grand Bodies in no other place ; the *three* Grand Bodies in Great Britain collectively stand upon the same ground that one would, if there were only one.

" The Grand Lodge of Manitoba chartered a Lodge in one of the Dependencies, but upon protest by the Grand Lodge of England, it withdrew the charter and thereby received the well merited commendation of her sister Grand Lodges.

" But while we hold that the Grand Chapter of Victoria was technically correct in refusing to recognize those Chapters, still, if they applied to come under its obedience, we regret that it did not receive them, because it would thereby have 'regularized' them, and saved the complications of the present situation. As we understand it, the Companions of the Chapter which surrendered its charter gave in their adhesion to the new Grand Chapter—an example which we hope the others will follow."

They will, Comp. Drummond, but under different conditions, and your regret at the chartering of these Chapters by Canada might have been tempered had you permitted your generally acute and charitable vision to have wandered outside the limit of the "principle of the law of jurisdiction" and permitted it for a moment to rest upon far away Companions receiving but scant courtesy from those to whom they naturally appealed in the first place. Canada's helping hand was only extended when those appeals failed, and her vindication will be found in the happy reunion of the hitherto conflicting elements and a consequent strengthening of Capitular Masonry in the distant colony of Victoria. This consummation, so devoutly wished, might never have been reached had Canada's fraternal interference been sought in vain.

It is difficult, however, to distinguish distant matters with accuracy when one looks through the wrong end of a lorgnette, and Comp. Drummond admits that he had to wait for daylight and a magnifier in order to review Canada.

He furnishes a glimpse of the absurd phase of the existence of the Past Master's degree in the following, under Kentucky :

"What right has a Chapter Mason to say to one who is not a Chapter Mason, that a certain ceremony in a body outside of a Chapter is precisely the same as a degree in a Chapter, even if such is the fact? Would Comp. Staton hold that an *actual* Past Master could be admitted into a Chapter open on the P. M. degree? Of course not. Why not? The answer must apply with equal force to the admission of Chapter Past Masters into a Lodge of *actual* Past Masters. The presence of the one in the Lodge of the other tells the same thing, and to parties not Masonically entitled to know it."

Stewart S. Stearns, Norway, Grand High Priest ;
Stephen Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary.

Maryland.

Chapters 17 ; Members 1,582.

This old Grand Chapter will in three years time celebrate its centennial, an approaching epoch that Grand High Priest Arnold took occasion to remind the Companions of in his address to the Ninety-seventh

Annual Convocation in Baltimore, on November 13, 1894. He refers with sorrow to the death of Past Grand High Priest, Robert Kirkwood Martin, for whose obsequies a special Convocation was summoned.

"Companion Martin was a distinguished citizen, a Christian gentleman, devoted husband and zealous Mason. His life was and example we all can well imitate—his last act being one of charity."

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

Of the honors conferred upon Maryland in the General Grand Chapter he thus writes :

"We Marylanders are known for our conservatism and modesty ; we are conservative in all things, and modest in many, and to show you it pays to be so, at the last Convocation of the General Grand Chapter we only asked for two things, the General Grand High Priest and the place of meeting for the next Triennial, and the General Grand Chapter, deeming the request so modest, granted both."

He did not pronounce any decisions, and to account for his apparent failure of duty in not making any outside visitations he says :

"I felt that it was my duty to save this Grand Chapter every cent I could, and as my predecessors for a long time back had annually made these visitations, I concluded that the Chapters would not suffer for this omission."

Singularly thoughtful of the Grand High Priest, who in this exhibits another trait of that modesty which he proudly claims for Maryland. He, however, gives just credit to Grand Lecturer Dukehart, who seems to have been indefatigable in his devotion, and who in conjunction with Comp. Likes supervised successfully the revived school of instruction.

R. E. Comp Congdon, of Dunville, Canada, was included among the Grand Representatives appointed.

The gratification experienced at M. E. Comp. McCahan's elevation to the position of General Grand High Priest found expression in a resolution inviting that distinguished Companion to sit for a portrait to be presented to Grand Chapter.

An amendment to the Constitution increasing the minimum fee for the degrees to fifty dollars in Baltimore Chapters, and twenty-five dollars in outside Chapters, was submitted to be considered at the next Annual Convocation.

Comp. Schultz presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, and does not omit Canada in his generally appreciative notices.

Referring to the matter of appeals to governing officers for decisions he truly observes :

“ We have found the most numerous decisions reported by Presiding Officers in those jurisdictions which have the most voluminous codes of law, and the reasons therefor are quite easy of explanation.

“ In their desire to frame laws that will fit every imaginable case that can possibly arise, a ponderous code of laws is produced, with which but few officers in these days of rapid promotion and *one* term office have either the time or the inclination to familiarize themselves.

“ Even an officer who may have searched the code diligently for the law applicable to a case in hand, often finds what, at least seems to him a conflict in the law upon the subject, and as a last resort applies to the Grand Master or Grand High Priest for a solution of the difficulty.

“ Now, if our Grand Lodges would simply publish the General Regulations of the Fraternity, which are few and simple, but which all admit are the fundamental laws governing the Fraternity, then let the brother who aspires to be ‘ a master in the art ’ be informed that in order that he may become such he must *study* these fundamental laws, as well as acquire a knowledge of the usages and customs that have been derived therefrom, our Grand Masters and Grand High Priests would seldom be called upon for decisions.”

On the physical perfection controversy he has this to say :

“ We do not *quite* hold to the ‘ perfect youth doctrine ’ as we remarked in the review from which he quoted, but we do hold that it is a farce, if nothing worse, to ask a person to do what you know he is physically unable to do. Unless, therefore, the forms and ceremonies practiced in the conferring of the degrees of Masonry are to be held as unmeaning and unnecessary, and may be dispensed with at pleasure, said degrees cannot be *conferred* upon anyone who is not able to comply literally with those forms and ceremonies.”

Alluding to North Dakota’s break in inviting the ladies of the Chapter of the Eastern Star to fraternize during a recess of Grand Chapter and then engaging in a sort of combination installation ceremony, he says :

“ We suppose this was all right, but it does read *funny* in Grand Chapter proceedings.”

It is more than funny, it is gaiety of the enlarged head variety, and capable of being the germ of untold

trouble. The North Dakotas are young and youth must plead their excuse. Admonition, even mild, is in order just the same.

The word "Order," by the way, as applied to the fraternity, is distasteful to Comp. Schultz, although it is quite legitimate. We have heard similar objection more than once and can only attribute the prevailing repugnance to the fact that in the mouths of boomsters for every one-horse mushroom organization of modern days the phrase "our beloved Order" is everlastingly rolled like a sweet morsel. The "joiner" has a decided affection for the word, and if the Craft can afford to dispense with that one bit of antiquity in favor of the Eastern Star, or ephemeral blossoms of like nature, by all means let them enjoy it.

Edward R. Trippe, Easton, Grand High Priest ;
George L. McCahan, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

Massachusetts.

Chapters 74 ; Members 13,304.

As is customary in this old jurisdiction, an exemplification of the work preceded the regular business of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter which was held in Boston on the 11th December, 1894, and occupied the morning session. In the evening M. E. Comp. J. Gilman Waite, Grand High Priest, addressed the Companions. He said :

"We are first impressed with a feeling of devout thankfulness to the Great Architect of the Universe for the guidance which has brought us safely to the close of another year ; that from the roll of the Grand Chapter no member has been touched with 'that sleep that knows no waking.' It is gratifying to be able to place on record the history of a year so replete with the good works of the Craft as that which now draws to a close. No schism has rent the body, and no contention has arisen among its members, 'save that noble contention of who best can work and best agree.' No one has approached this Grand Body with a grievance or appealed for a redress of wrongs. All, with one common end in view, have striven to elevate the standard of excellence to which we had already risen, and I trust that we have in some degree attained the object of our endeavors."

A most happy condition of affairs truly. He devoted some space to narrating how St. Andrew's Chapter of Boston celebrated its 125th anniversary on

September 5th previous, an event which brought together many distinguished Companions.

The excellence and uniformity of ritualistic work in all the Chapters he takes pride in noting, and of another feature which is coming into prominence he says :

“The Book of Marks, which is a distinctive feature of the Rite, has had its due share of attention on the part of the High Priests who have scrupulously carried out the requirements of the Grand Chapter. In many instances, much successful effort has been displayed on their part in securing Marks of the older members, who do not strictly come within the order requiring it to be selected and recorded before exaltation. May the good work in this direction, go on until every Chapter can display a complete Mark Book.”

Speaking of the musical accessories he adds :

“It matters very little how beautiful in thought or how skilful in execution it be, if it does not hold a just relation with the symbolism of the ritual, it becomes a side effect, distracting the attention of the aspirant from the instruction he is about to receive, and depriving him of much of its impressiveness and beauty.”

True, but if music is to be an adjunct, the fitness of the phraseology could never atone for lack of harmony.

To hear, as the writer has heard, and in other jurisdictions beside his own, the odes of the subordinate degrees ground out with all the lingering strength and lugubrious intonation of an Irish “Come-all-ye” is enough to create ideas of torture in the candidate, and drive an otherwise well disposed visitor to bad habits. It should be made plain to Chapter rulers that the use of the degree odes ought only to be exercised where the membership can furnish a choir capable of rendering them with impressive effect. Music, as an aid to the work, is to be encouraged, but it should be music.

Comp. Seranus Bowen’s Correspondence report is a bright and entertaining review. In his mention of Canada, he says :

“The Proceedings show a commendable degree of activity on the part of the Grand Officers and also the Subordinate Chapters. We congratulate the Companions of Canada on this desirable state of things and the prospects of greater success in the future.”

We are altogether in accord with him when he thus comments on the admission of a female choir (concealed of course) to assist at a Chapter ceremony in Ohio :

"We are sorry to see that he insists that they can have ladies assist in the work of the Chapter Degrees. We don't mean to be too much of an old foggy, but we believe that Masons and nobody else should work Masonic Degrees."

And replying to the Indiana reporter's views on a similar subject, he says :

"We note that he is favorable to the introduction of ladies to sing in the work of the Chapter Degrees, but is shocked if a man is admitted who has an artificial leg. Better leave out the ladies and admit the man."

J. Gilman Waite, Meaford, Grand High Priest ;
Seranus Bowen, Boston, Grand Secretary.

Michigan.

Chapters 127 ; Members 12,338.

M. E. Comp. James H. Cummins, Grand High Priest, whose portrait makes an attractive frontispiece to the printed proceedings, opened the Forty-sixth Annual Convocation in Detroit on January 15, 1895, and preceded and ended his address with choice poetic extracts. Like the boutonniere in the portrait, they imparted a graceful embellishment to the work of the artist. Referring to his presence at the dedication of King Cyrus Chapter, he regrets that the condition of his health prevented his witnessing the completion of the ceremony, which was

"Followed by a sumptuous banquet, to which my proxy did ample justice, as I learn."

A bit of information for Grand Chapter which the proxy aforesaid, doubtless appreciated at its par value.

The Grand High Priest pointed out some blemishes in the constitution and recommended the appointment of a Revising Committee, and further recommended that Grand Chapter be incorporated.

Like others in a similar position, those pesky, "uncontrollable circumstances" prevented him from carrying out the good intentions with regard to visitations with which he started out. He regrets this very much, but "it is a poor heart that never rejoices," for in closing he jubilantly says :

"Companions, I feel proud that I am a Master Mason and also a Royal Arch Mason of this great and glorious Grand Jurisdiction, the superior of which does not exist in this or any other

country. A state that is always in the front, whether it be in peace or war, religion or politics; a state, and the only state, that can claim 'Our Hugh,' one of Nature's noblemen, together with hundreds of others of the same kind of courteous and genial gentlemen."

There is a note of warning in the following which might possibly escape the eye of ambitious Companions desirous of effecting improvements in existing ceremonies.

"The Grand High Priest requested Past Grand High Priest Hugh McCurdy to instal the Grand Officers elect, which duty this distinguished Companion performed in accordance with the original ceremony, of which he is the inventor and patentee. Beware of infringements."

Grand Secretary Conover presented the report on Correspondence which, however, he credits to Comp. Garra B. Noble, a member of the Committee. As the latter's "Mark" is not attached to many of the reviews it is inferred that Comp. Conover's reportorial finger was in the pie just the same. Between them they have furnished most readable compilation and comment.

Canada receives extended notice, and referring to the reduction of the minimum fee the report says:

"There seems to have been a marked increase in membership in that jurisdiction in the past year, and the Grand Chapter attributes it to the reducing of the fees from \$20 to \$10. This may be so and prosperity be apparent for a time, but we fear that what comes too cheap by will not be very highly prized for any great length of time. We shall see."

And of the abolition of the Past Master's degree asks:

"How is an American Royal Arch Mason going to visit Canadian Chapters hereafter when the Royal Arch degree is conferred?"

What is to prevent him? The Royal Arch degree is fundamentally the same here as it is in Michigan. It is not in the Past Master's degree that the Master Mason finds that which he seeks, nor is there anything throughout its makeshift construction to encourage him to look for the time or circumstances that will restore that genuine something necessary to complete his knowledge.

The Past Master's degree has been, is, and will be, a source of unnecessary vexation and trouble. Viewed unprejudicially it is useless and now meaningless. It

furnishes a title to a Chapter aspirant, who, if he be at all discerning, rapidly discovers its spurious quality, and is content to let it rest as a memory. It has also been the vent for exuberant spirits, in those blind to its much-extolled "beauty," and who utilized it as the vehicle for horse play. Even as a pre-requisite, it has now nothing under heaven to defend it. The very explanation given to the candidate is an apology for its existence: "The conferring of this degree which has no historical connection with the rest of the degrees." No, nor any other connection.

Mackey says "the explanation of its introduction into Chapters manifestly demonstrates that the jurisdiction over it by Chapters is altogether an assumed one;" and other equally reliable authorities are in accord with him.

In September last, St. Andrew's Royal Arch Chapter, of Boston, celebrated its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary. Two years after the foundation of that old Chapter, Thomas Smith Webb was born in the same city. In his mature years that zealous Craftsman conceived the idea of re-arranging the original plan of Freemasonry, and among other achievements he fabricated this precious degree. He was also, we are told, the inventor of the Most Excellent Master's degree, and in his great scheme of Chapter reformation, he tacked them on to his system, and sandwiched them in between the two degrees, which possessed some genuine claim to antiquity.

Thus the Royal Arch degree flourished in America many years before mortal man ever heard of Webb's "pre-requisite," and it will flourish when American Chapter Masonry wakes up to the absurdity of its continuance, and consigns it to the oblivion whence it never should have sprung.

No American Royal Arch Mason need doubt for a moment his welcome in Canada, and we trust the day will never dawn when a Canadian Companion's entrance to an American Chapter will be barred merely because he lacks that more than "apparent anomaly," the Past Master's degree.

Michigan is very near to us, Comp. Conover, other than geographically, and it would be a source of everlasting regret if we omitted the opportunity to remove a mistaken impression.

Although the Past Master has gone out the latch string hangs invitingly as of yore.

In one of the latest reports of Tennessee's departed son, Comp. George C. Connor, he uses these words :

"We confess that we see but feeble indications of any movement looking toward the expulsion of the so-called Past Master's degree, and the confession is made in sorrow."

Had he lived, poor fellow, he would have been among the first to congratulate Canada for removing the barnacle.

Charles D. Blanchard, Marquette, Grand High Priest ; Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary.

Minnesota.

Chapters 58 ; Members 4,498.

The representatives of 53 Chapters together with the Grand Officers were in attendance at the Thirty-third Annual Convocation, which Grand High Priest Wm. P. Jewett opened in the city of St. Paul, October 9th, 1894. The presiding officer's address, though covering much ground, was businesslike throughout. He proved active in visitation, and specially noted the benefit derived from the division of the jurisdiction into districts over each of which a "district visitor" was appointed. Among his decisions is the following:

"A member stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues stands in the relation of a non-affiliate, and can only be restored to membership by payment in full of the dues for which he was delinquent and upon petition in due form and unanimous ballot."

The latter provision might, perhaps, have a salutary effect in maintaining possible delinquents in a wakeful condition, but it would also be the means of keeping out many who would otherwise return. While non-payment of dues and its punishment are too often the result of carelessness, there are probably as many more who drop out because of their present inability to pay, and who under improved circumstances would gladly

seek reunion with their Companions on being permitted to wipe out their indebtedness. To add the ballot box to the penalty, therefore, seems harsh, and hardly in consonance with the virtue we profess to admire, and which we were enjoined at our initiation to practice.

It is noteworthy that the Committee on Jurisprudence endorsed this decision.

Comp. Thomas Montgomery submitted the report on Correspondence and appended a carefully prepared table of statistics, which must have cost him much valuable time and labor to compile. Referring to Canada's decision to reduce the minimum fee, he says :

"They only charge ten dollars for the degrees, a reduction from twenty dollars, made last year. The minimum with us is thirty dollars, which we think is low enough. It does not pay in the long run to cheapen Masonry.

Under Oregon he thus replies to a comment on the question of balloting for the restoration of a member S. N. P. D.

"If a member is so indifferent to his Masonic duty as to allow himself to be stricken from the roll of members, one can readily see that such a Companion would remain out, if the Chapter was in a decline or struggling under financial burdens, willing, meantime, to have others bear the burden and heat of the day. Then when success crowned their efforts and they were increasing in numbers and popularity, all he had to do was to pay the Secretary the small sum he owed when stricken from the roll, perhaps ten or twenty years before, and without any action of the Chapter, resume his membership and become a beneficiary of the labors of others.* We do not think such an easy way of returning is fair to those who bear the burdens and do the work, and believe they ought to have a voice in saying whether or not such a Companion should be again associated with them in full membership."

Which to our thinking is travelling a mighty long distance for argument to bolster up a very questionable ruling. S. N. P. D. is not always indifference to Masonic duty.

On the following page he quotes under Nova Scotia, and in the accidental juxtaposition there lies a moral :

"He heads one of his topics, 'Are any in need, or in distressed circumstances?' and thinks it is a question that should frequently be asked by Royal Arch Masons, as they should ever be solicitous for the welfare of their Companions, and quotes the lines."

“ Do your best for one another,
Making life a pleasant dream ;
Help a worn and weary brother,
Pulling hard against the stream.”

A case of “ look here, upon this picture and on this.”

Under South Dakota he says :

“ While we believe that Royal Arch Masons and Knights Templar should keep up their membership in the Blue Lodge, we do not agree with those who hold that non-affiliation in the Lodge is a Masonic crime.”

You will find many to differ with you, Companion Montgomery.

Frank B. Forbes, Albert Lea, Grand High Priest ;
Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

Mississippi.

Chapters 43 ; Members 1,309.

The Forty-sixth Annual Convocation was held at Holly Springs, February 14th, 1894. M. E. Comp. J. K. McLeod, Grand High Priest, presided, and read a brief address which embraced a resume of his official acts. These, as far as could be gathered, consisted in granting and refusing applications for dispensations and delegating another to constitute a Chapter.

A cyclone struck George Washington Chapter at Free Springs and demolished the building. Grand Chapter considerably remitted its dues.

Comp. P.M. Savery presented a “ model ” report on Correspondence, although he modestly declines to claim for it that standard of excellence. He clips freely from Canada, but is sparing of comment.

Referring to Comp. Singleton’s criticism of a decision given by him as Grand High Priest, he says :

“ He goes for us on our decision that a non-affiliate had no more rights in a Chapter than a profane, and can not prefer charges in the Chapter against an affiliated Mason, and asks : Where would it lead us to if this prevailed everywhere in Masonry ? I answer, it would bring in the golden age of Masonry, when Brethren and Companions would pay their just dues to Lodge and Chapter, or have them remitted for inability to pay. A time when, if a Mason appeared in regalia on a pub-

lic occasion, it would be notice not only to the Craft, but to the world, that he was doing his duty as a Mason."

Wm. Starling, Greenville, Grand High Priest ; J. L. Power, Jackson, Grand Secretary.

Montana.

Chapters 12 ; Members 637.

Five years old and yet this young Grand Chapter can turn out a volume of spicy reading ninety pages in extent, and adorned with a portrait of its Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. P. H. Poindexter. All the Chapters were represented at the Annual Convocation held in the city of Billings, Sept. 17th, 1894. In his brief, but interesting address, the Grand High Priest, among other good things, says :

"Comparatively, Montana has suffered less than a majority of the States. We are fortunate in having some diversity of interests.

"We have one crop that never fails and always commands an undiminished price—the gold from our placer and quartz mines. Neither have our grain fields or broad pastures been parched with drouth, or our forests consumed with fires, as in some of our sister States to the east."

How those telegraph wires do exaggerate!

An amendment to the Constitution providing that one officer of a Chapter, present at Grand Chapter, be empowered to cast the full vote of the Chapter, was reported adversely by the Jurisprudence Committee.

The same Committee recommended that High Priests of Chapters be urged to the regulation concerning the recording of Marks.

Companion Hedges prefaces his introduction to a most interesting report on Correspondence as follows :

"Within a month General Grand Chapter will meet (D. V.) which has come to mean 'Debs willing,' and in another month thereafter our Grand Bodies will all be in session in quick succession, so that the days for work are getting few, and if we are to look through this formidable pile of Proceedings it will require us to strip for the work and try and find something cool and consoling in companionship."

Even in leafy June, the necessity for something "cool and consoling" while engaged at this task is, like the poor, always with us. How then must it be in July ?

He gives to Canada a fair measure of his impartial attention. Noticing the Australian warrants he says :

“Three new Chapters were warranted in Victoria, and we think those of our Grand Chapters that are recognizing the home Grand Chapter in this Australian province had better go a little slow and find out why it is that they will not admit to fellowship the Chapters chartered from Canada. It would be better for all concerned to have all united in one home Grand Chapter, and what little influence we have will be thrown that way.”

And referring to Comp. Duncan's Louisiana review he says :

“We wish some of those who have been in such haste to recognize the Grand Chapter of Victoria would read this review on the subject. Things that have the same name are not always alike. Canadian Royal Arch Masonry resembles ours much more than the British. The recognition of anything really foreign in Royal Arch Masonry we are in favor of leaving entirely to the General Grand Chapter.”

Under Wisconsin he thus comments on the “rush-
ing” process :

“This steamboating candidates through the Chapter is a betrayal of the Chapter's interests and a fraud on the candidate, however in his ignorance he may desire it. Don't cheat a poor candidate by giving him a name and nothing more, a picture of bread, instead of a real loaf, and then wait till he can digest it. Better go back to first and better principles.”

His conclusion is a sketch of the transactions of the General Grand Chapter at Topeka in the drougthy August previously, when he arrived “to find the hotel full with delegates already on the ground.” Fortunately there was no careless printer to perpetrate an injudicious transposition.

Having taken due note of “the sun-kissed soil” and the “beautiful opera house” he devotes a paragraph or two to the opening of the Convocation, and then sails into the inevitable story of the memorable excursion to Fort Riley. We have already waded patiently through some thirty of the Proceedings to hand, and in very few have we escaped Fort Riley. Never in its history has Fort Riley been so extolled. Fort Riley with its battle ground, its baseball and its banquet. Fort Riley, the possessor of that precious point within a circle marked by a monument. Fort Riley that has been honored and immortalized by the brightest

and best of Royal Craftsmen. It is with envy, of a brilliant emerald hue, that we bid adieu to Comp. Hedges, but the parting is tinted with a sad suspicion that we are not yet through with Fort Riley.

Ike W. Baker, Livingston, Grand High Priest ;
Cornelius Hedges, Helena, Grand Secretary.

Nebraska.

Chapters 51 ; Members 2,991.

Thirty-five Chapters were represented at the Annual Convocation held in Omaha, Dec. 12th, 1894. M. E. Comp. Albert W. Crites in his address deploras the fact that nineteen of the Chapters did not confer the R. A. degree during the year. The others had an average of over five. He arrested one charter for apathy and recommended its High Priest for discipline. In recording the constituting of another he says :

“ At the close of the exercises we were conducted to the residence of one of the Companions near by, where, under gentle compulsion, we partook of a feast, comprising all the delicacies of the season, after which, as is customary on such occasions, your Grand Officers and others, under great compulsion, clearly demonstrated that they were not entire successes as after dinner orators. The sisters of the Eastern Star joined in the festivities, but, wiser than we, they would not suffer themselves to be persuaded into oratorical flights.”

Alas ! no. Their eloquence is reserved for a more limited audience later on, that is, if Bro. Caudle is an authority.

He briefly notices the Convocation of General Grand Chapter. He says :

“ No business or legislation of great importance, or of general interest to the Craft was done. The Kansas Companions spared no pains to make our visit exceedingly agreeable, and the social features of the occasion, as my wife informs me, were simply perfect.”

Singular. The Grand High Priest was there himself. Probably the attractions of Fort Riley were absorbing. He loyally gives it mention but fails to expatiate. He refers again to the ladies of the Eastern Star in enthusiastic terms, and significantly adds that they

“ Wielled a power and influence not to be overlooked or neglected.”

Well, if that is all they wielded, everything was happy of course, but we may be pardoned for expressing a fear of that "power and influence" in the not far away by and by.

He coldly treated a request from Companions at Valentine for a dispensation to form a new Chapter, because they would have to depend for accessions upon an adjacent military post of doubtful stability.

He expressed a doubt as to the wisdom of recognizing New South Wales, and the Committee supported him by putting the onus on the General Grand Chapter which had already given that body its countenance.

During the session the tidings of the death of M. E. Comp. J. Frizzell, of Tennessee, arrived and the announcement was received with expressions of fraternal sympathy.

"A Prince of the House of Judah has laid down his scepter. A good man has fallen at his post of duty. May the lessons drawn from his life never lose their impress upon our lives."

The report on Correspondence is by Companion Phelps, who goes into the work with a thoroughness truly refreshing.

He gives to Canada a page, and of the Victorian unpleasantness he says:

"It is truly deplorable. And it is probable that well understood principles of Masonic law have been disregarded, or the present condition of things would not have resulted. Generally the Grand Chapter of Victoria has been recognized and fraternal relations established with sister Grand Chapters. If this has been done with full knowledge of all the facts it would seem that the consensus of opinion was in favor of the claims of the Grand Chapter of Victoria. This Committee has never been favored with the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter of Victoria, hence is not fully advised of all its claims in the premises."

And, therefore, cannot determine. Sensible Committee. A recognition by other Grand Bodies might be interpreted to mean as suggested, an endorsement of Victoria's claims. It might also be explained as too hasty action on their part. Nebraska has shown them a wiser course. It would not take long to relate the story, but as the Companions in that far-off colony are negotiating to bridge the chasm, and even now may

have joined hands, it is hardly worth while to irritate a tender spot.

He commends our system of superintendence which he says works admirably.

Frank E. Ballard, North Platte, Grand High Priest ; Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha, Grand Secretary.

New Brunswick.

Chapters 7 ; Members 401.

The Seventh Annual Convocation opened in the City of St. John on the 29th August, 1894, under the shadow of a great bereavement. On the 25th April previous, M. E. Comp. Thomas Nisbet Robertson, Grand High Priest, was summoned to his eternal rest after a brief illness.

Deputy Grand High Priest Tweedie who presided referred feelingly to the loss sustained by Grand Chapters.

“Companion Robertson was initiated into Freemasonry on the second day of January, 1863, in Albion Lodge, then No. 570, on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of England, and was Worshipful Master of that Lodge in 1871, and continued a member during his life. At the time of his death he was a member and Past First Principal of Carleton Chapter.

He was a member and Past Commander of the Encampment of St. John, Knights Templars, No. 48, on the Registry of the Chapter General of Scotland, and also an Honorary member of St. Omer Commandery of South Boston, Massachusetts.

In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite he had attained the 32°, and at the time of his death was Commander-in-Chief of New Brunswick Consistory.

He was also at the time of his death Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Companion Robertson was Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter from the time of its formation in 1887 down to the year 1892, when he was elected Grand High Priest. By his death also the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick loses its Grand Secretary.

At the time he was stricken with the fatal disease which ended his earthly career, M. E. Companion Robertson was contemplating an early official visit to the several subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, but he was not permitted to accomplish his desire.

While we mourn for him, let us strive to follow the example of our departed Companion, and, by the faithful discharge

of our duties here, become prepared for the summons which must sooner or later come to us all."

The returns of 1893 as compared with those of 1892, exhibit a gain of six, and the Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$143.42.

The Grand Chapter of New South Wales was recognized.

John V. Ellis, St. John, Grand High Priest; Wm. A. Ewing, St. John, Grand Secretary.

New Hampshire.

Chapters 23; Members 3114.

Seventy-five times has the Grand Chapter met in Annual Convocation. M. E. Wm. H. W. Hinds, Grand High Priest, wielded the scepter at that held in the city of Concord on May 15th, 1894, and opened his address with touching tributes to the memory of Past Grand High Priests J. J. Bell and D. R. Marshall, as well as other Companions who had been called away.

The Chapters were fairly visited by the principal officers, and their reports indicate a steady advance.

A singular case was submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence. A Chapter charged a Companion with impeding the work by obstructing the ballot box, found him guilty of the offence and recommended his expulsion.

From the lengthy story of the case it is gleaned that the Chapter possessed two ballot boxes, one of which the accused objected to as not providing a proper secrecy. He claimed that before he deposited his ballot, he rose and respectfully asked the High Priest whether he considered that a secret ballot. The latter replied: "It was secret enough for me when I came in," and directed the ballot to be collected. After the accused voted it was found that the box was so hocus-pocussed that no other Companion could deposit his ballot, and the box had to be cleared. A second attempt resulted in a similar blockade, and then the High Priest directed that the box should not again be presented to the accused. On the succeeding rounds the candidates were declared elected, the accused not

being permitted to vote, despite his protest. He then raised objection to the conferring of the degrees on the accepted ones, and lo, his objection was heard. It seems that the box used was an old one, which could be obstructed when cubes were used, but was all right with balls.

The Committee censured the High Priest for his method of dealing with the Companion's objection in the first place and reversed the decision of the Chapter tribunal, the ballots were declared void and new ballots ordered on all the candidates, a box approved by the Grand High Priest to be used. The Committee's findings included the following :

"That he blackballed candidates for other than legitimate and Masonic purposes is not proved, for it appeared that the candidates were not blackballed, but the ballot for each was declared to be unanimous; nor does the evidence show that he attempted to blackball. That he objected to the three candidates receiving the degrees is true, but it was done in a proper manner and for a legitimate purpose, for from Companion Cater's standpoint they were not properly elected by a secret ballot, and he had a right to object to the degrees being conferred.

"But the evidence discloses another matter of great seriousness, and in the minds of your Committee calls for a severe censure from the Grand Chapter. The High Priest of Belknap Chapter on the occasion of this balloting acted in a manner which, if repeated, would show his unfitness to preside over and govern that or any Masonic body. He was regardless not only of that duty which should have prevented any misunderstanding in the beginning, and was wanting in the authority which should have nipped in the bud any attempted irregularity in the balloting, either on the part of the officers, or of Comp. Cater. He deliberately disregarded the inherent right of a Companion in good standing to vote at all times, and he arbitrarily deprived him of that right. For this reason alone the trial failed. The ballot was not unanimous; the candidates were not elected; the objection to their proceeding further, nugatory; and all threats in relation thereto, by or to any Companion, empty and of no consequence. By depriving a Companion of the right to vote, the foundation was sapped and all that was built on it crumbles to ruins. No excuse will authorize the presiding officer of a Masonic body to refuse to allow a member to vote; if the member is disorderly or obstructs the ballot, the work may be suspended until he is tried for that offence, but to deprive him of that right without trial is a complete disregard of all law and the ancient usages and landmarks of the Craft."

Comp. A. S. Wait presides amiably over the department of Foreign Correspondence, and greets all

comers with a fraternal nod, Canada, of course, receiving a kindly greeting.

He has a word for all sticklers on the subject of physical perfection in Capitular Masonry. In reply to M. E. Comp. Robertson, that a candidate for any degree should be physically capable of complying with all the requirements of that degree, he says:

“Will our M. E. Companion fraternally tell us what good of the Craft requires a brother to be refused advancement because of a defect received after initiation, that would not at the same time require that a brother after similar misfortune should be excluded from the privileges of the Order?”

Again to Comp. Long, of Indiana, who quotes for his edification some of the ancient MSS., he rejoins:

Companion Long, although holding, and, just so far as his language imports, we think rightly, to the requirement of physical qualification, does not inform us what his views are as to defects acquired by misfortune after initiation, in their effect upon advancement. His quotations from the Hallewell Poem or Regius MS., and the Cook MS. very clearly confine the requirement to Entered Apprentices, and are in direct confirmation of the view we have urged, that the requirement relates only to the making of Masons, and has nothing to do with advancement to the subsequent degrees.”

We were about to add a few ideas of our own on the matter when a wandering eye caught sight of a sixteen-page facer directed at Comp. Drummond and dealing with another subject, and we forbore. Even in a cheerful correspondence sometimes “discretion is the better part of valor.”

There is one thing, however, in the latter that we are fain to notice. Pardon if we quote:

“The Grand Lodge of England, like the British Crown, denied to its dependencies these very liberties which it recognized as the birthright of its constituencies at home. While the fathers in our revolution fought for the rights of British subjects, American Masonry was asserting for American Lodges the same rights that British Lodges at home enjoyed.”

The context would lead one to infer that the “dependencies” aforesaid were those of the colonies. If so, the Masonic complexion of the relationship must have vastly changed since the good old days.

England’s care of her Lodges in the distant colonies has too often been characterized by chilling indifference,

but as soon as another body stepped in to see how they were getting on, the old lady was at once all ire and solicitude. Such was the experience of pioneer days in Upper Canada. Quebec has had a sample of it. New Zealand recently, under similar conditions, asserted her independence, and for a like reason Chapters were planted in Victoria by this jurisdiction. To hear of England denying to its Colonial Lodges any kind of liberty is too amusing. Why, bless you Companion, as long as they sent "'ome" the periodical wherewithal, and very often even that was undemanded, the Lodges abroad could do just as they pleased, provided they kept strangers at the other side of the fence. If one of the latter made a friendly call and stayed over night, then, indeed, was England's maternal instinct on the alert, and thereafter she couldn't be accused of anything worse than inconsistency.

There is a flavor about the writing that would lead us to suppose that the Companion had chosen Bunker Hill day or some other exhilarating anniversary to indite it. We are not sorry now that we hesitated at a controversy.

Wm. H. W. Hinds, Milford, Grand High Priest ;
George P. Cleaves, Concord, Grand Secretary.

New Jersey.

Chapters 37 ; Members 3,099.

M. E. Comp. Andrew J. Bale presided over the Thirty-eighth Annual Convocation in Trenton, May 9th, 1894.

In a brief address he advocated a measure of reform in order to put new life into the working, and suggested as a reason for apparent apathy, that presiding officers followed too closely the footsteps of predecessors. What example he himself displayed he modestly refrains from publishing.

He commissioned our Comp, J. McL. Stevenson, of Barrie, the representative of New Jersey near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The other Grand officers appear to have been zealous in visiting.

Recognition was given to New Brunswick and withheld from New South Wales.

Comp. Edwards precedes his report on Correspondence with a sad introduction between black lines :

“For the second time summoned to perform the duty assigned to those who had died before preparing their work in the quarries, the first occasion consequent upon the death of the lamented Corson, whose genius in the Masonic field is still reflected, and whose integrity of life is a bright example for all time ; the second, that of the immediate decease of Companion Henry Vehslage, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Grand Chaplain and Past Grand Master, exemplar of the faith and follower in the footsteps of the Master. it is with no ordinary feelings that this reviewer again obeys the mandate to prepare the Correspondence Report ; a Mason’s craft-work, the function of Companions removed by the unerring shaft of death.”

Canada receives from the reviewer the credit of being strong and prosperous. It is presumed the following is quoted as an evidence of northern zeal.

“Eight hundred miles was the length of a journey taken by the Companion who was first named in the charter of a new Chapter for the purpose of being installed. After returning the same distance, he was enabled to install the other officers by the assistance of a dispensation. Having achieved apostolic succession, by the laying on of hands, it is difficult to see why that was not sufficient of itself, without dispensatory power, unless on the theory that the grace within him had not sprouted.”

Hear him to Nebraska on the endless physical perfection theme :

“On the subject of physical perfection there are so many views, full views, partial views, distant views, and views that are veiled, that this old vexation will never down. Substitute an artificial hand ; dress a wooden leg in a trouser and attach a shoe ; clothe a wanting arm in Samite, anything to help along a candidate that does not come up to the standard, ‘a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the Art, of serving his Master’s Lord, and of being made a Brother, and then a Fellow-Craft in due time,’ appears to be the general drift.

“Masonry was never intended, either in its inception or adoption, for the many ; had it been otherwise there would have been no erection of barriers for its protection. Numerically, more or less in the Order is of no consequence ; the ‘pursuit of happiness’ is not affected by its absence in an individual, nor is his speed after that fleeing and fleeting essence hindered by its wanting ; nor has its nullity ever been presumed to curtail his chance of salvation.

“The benefit arising from the addition of an average member

is small to the body compared to that inuring to the individual. In ninety-nine cases the torturing of words, intents and purposes, the infraction of landmarks and laws, and the violation of consciences are exerted in favor of the neophyte as against the institution. Not for the many, but the few."

And to New Hampshire :

"Having been made a Mason. and achieved that of Master, why require any other qualifications, why ballot, why do anything more than take the candidate's money and proceed to confer? Why have any disability, moral, physical or mechanical? Wooden arms and wooden legs for the second story of the edifice!

"Every lecture, every degree, every step in the Capitular system is advancement, not retrogration, and it is a logical conclusion that the advancement should be as a whole and not with a hand left here and a foot there. If the standard were exacted of increased qualifications for each degree acquired. there would be less work but more exaltation among Royal Arch Masons."

North Carolina's rapid transit for candidates elicits the following :

"With a recorded list of sixty-eight exaltations twenty-one of them were by dispensation to avoid the time required, and apology being found in 'purpose of establishing a new Chapter,' 'purpose of establishing a Commandery of K. T., to fill out team;' if there was any other cause involved it is not mentioned. What an exalted conception of Royal Arch Masonry must the five have had who struck the go-as-you-please gait for the purpose of getting early on the K. T. path, whereon are displayed brass-band uniforms, feathers, banners and large cutlery."

Nova Scotia's Grand High Priest reveals a penchant for out-door parades and it strikes Comp. Edwards with a dull thud. Here is how he gives expression to the pain :

"The dyspeptic is not disposed to take the brightest view of occurrences, and the writer may be afflicted similarly, from having endured much of the day, a procession marching and countermarching, with bands and banners in celebration of St. Patrick, past his business office in the large city separated by the Hudson from this State, and returning home 'in the cool of the day' to a further endurance of a parade of a section of the Salvation Army, passing and repassing at will, with full regulation accompaniments and sidewalk attendants. Pessimism prevails."

Happy to meet, sorry to part.

Thomas O. Ayers, Orange, Grand High Priest ;
Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City, Grand Secretary.

New York.

Chapters 186 ; Members 18,787.

Within two years of its century this Grand Chapter presents a report worthy of the Empire State. The Ninety-eighth Annual Convocation was held in Albany, February 5th, 1895. Grand High Priest Fred. E. Barnes delivered an able address from which we quote :

“ Ninety-eight years is a long period of time, except to Him from whose hand the ‘ centuries drop like grains of sand,’ and like my predecessors, I extend to you to-day a welcome to this Annual Convocation, the ninety-eighth yearly meeting of our Grand Chapter.

“ History is divided into three epochs—yesterday, to-day and to-morrow. Hope being the divinity of the last, so is Memory the goddess of the first, because every worldly interest beckons man on to the future ; the Altar of Hope is always covered with flowers. Let us not forget, however, what we owe to the past, for she is the mother of all men and all institutions. So also will every true Companion, especially at these Annual Convocations, soberly ask of the past, our common mother, what lessons she has prepared for us in the days that are gone. Whether we go back to the tomb of Solomon, or to that remoter day where the first Adam stands alone on the threshold of history, we find that all enduring life is a growth both in man and in nature, and that the higher type is produced only by the sacrifice of the lower. The mineral gives life to the vegetable, the vegetable to the animal, the animal to the man, because he is the crowning excellence of the Creator’s handiwork.

“ Were we standing over the consecrated dust of King Solomon’s Temple to-day, this is the message which the venerable past would send to us: Be swift as the eagle ; be patient as the ox ; be bold as the lion in the service of God and of thy fellow-man. This high ideal many of our beloved Companions have reached, not only in this jurisdiction, but in the universal Temple of Royal Arch Masonry, and have departed hence to receive their reward. Our Mystic Temple has grown to its present sublime proportions only because they builded long and well, and were glad to give themselves and their substance to the cause of human brotherhood.”

He decided that the action of the second officer of a Chapter in opening the Convocation and proceeding with business of balloting, when the High Priest and warrant were absent, was wrong, and that the subsequent presence of both did not validate the proceedings. All business transacted prior to the arrival of the chief officer he declared void.

As the point involved hinged upon the actual presence of the warrant rather than of the High Priest, the Committee on Jurisprudence fell back upon a decision of Grand Chapter in 1878 which held that it was not necessary that the High Priest should actually have the warrant of the Chapter in the Chapter room during a Convocation, and that it was sufficient if the warrant was in his custody. The Committee therefore, with two dissentients, decided that the proceedings were regular, and reversed the decision of the Grand High Priest. Grand Chapter concurred.

He was apparently not weary in well doing, making some fifty or more visitations, and that he imparted his zeal to others is apparent from the enthusiastic manner in which his officers supported him.

“ I feel justly proud at having been able to visit Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction, where none of my predecessors have entered, one Chapter especially, being over seventy years old, I was the first Grand High Priest who ever visited it. Certainly, to have a Companion who was for nearly fifty years a Royal Arch Mason, ask for the privilege of shaking the hand of the Grand High Priest of the State, and expressing himself as thanking God that he had lived long enough to do so, would be a sufficient inducement to any Grand Officer to go on foot, and even barefoot in the visitation of a Chapter, and I know that if those who shall come after me as the representatives of this Grand Chapter, will take time to visit some of these Chapters they will be more than amply repaid.”

Among his recommendations we find one that did not meet with the approval of the committee to whom it was referred:

“ That in conferring the first section of the Mark Master Mason's degree, the Companions should be allowed to pursue the same course as in other degrees, working only upon one of the candidates. I see no reason why we should do differently in this degree than in the others, and certainly by obliging the brothers, and allowing them to see the conferring of the entire degree upon one candidate, it is, in my mind, carrying out all that is essential or necessary.”

Grand Lecturer McGown's report contained an interesting item regarding the registration of Marks :

“ I find that some Chapters are using printed forms in the shape of a *fac simile* of a page in the Book of Marks. One of these is given to each brother on receiving the Mark Degree, with instructions to fill it up and hand it to the Secretary for record. This seems a good and practical method of accomplishing

the desired result, and I commend it to the attention of the Chapters generally. Inasmuch as it is now the law of this Grand Chapter that a brother must record his 'Mark' before receiving the Royal Arch degree, each High Priest should, before proceeding to confer that degree, make inquiry of the Secretary in open Chapter, to ascertain if the law has been complied with and the duty performed."

The Committee on Rituals did not approve the substitution of the word "Stone" for "Rubbish" in the Royal Arch degree as recommended by the Grand Lecturer during the exemplification of the work of that degree.

An admirable address, "Freemasonry, a Light and Education for Man," was delivered before Grand Chapter on the second day of the session by Rev. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain.

The report on Correspondence by Comp. G. J. Gardner is an extensive work covering 234 pages of careful notice and judicious comment which he introduces thus :

"We think no apology is necessary for its length, as we have heretofore expressed our views as to the wisdom and almost impossibility of a greater condensation. To reduce the report to narrower limits would compel us to throw out much matter valuable to the Craft and materially weaken the interest of the reader in its perusal. It is no easy task to abridge thousands of pages and bring their contents within the narrow compass of the limit to which we are confined."

Narrow compass, indeed. Why, it is a whole reference library, beside which most other reports are mere leaflets.

He devotes three pages to Canada, but is sparing of comment. Regarding M. E. Comp. Harding's recommendation, touching Chapter of Instruction, he says :

"We favor these schools, but think that if led by various leaders, as in this case by the General Superintendents, a diversity of action and varied degrees of impressiveness might result, as the old adage has it : 'There are many men of many minds.'"

Of the report from the Australian District he says :

"For the information of our readers we should be pleased to extract the entire article, but its length forbids, and a synopsis would not do it justice. That our Canadian Companions have been treated in anything but a fraternal spirit, is evident from the report."

Perusing Comp. Bowen's regrets that the Chapter degrees are too often used as stepping stones, he pauses to remark :

" There is a growing evil which should be corrected—that of using the intermediate bodies or degrees as rounds in the ladder on which to ascend to the topmost one for the mere purpose of being a ' Knight ' or a ' 32d Degree,' or to have a good time in wearing the ' fez ' and having exhilarating seasons with the ' Shriners ' in treading the ' burning sands.' What do such subjects know of the real essence of Masonry? Hardly a scintilla of the esoteric and a slight monitorial knowledge of the exoteric. It is all included in two words, ' fun ' and ' glory.' "

And again underneath South Dakota :

" We know instances where this rushing through process has produced many ' progressive ' members—progressive only in advancing through the various degrees and grades—who, when they had passed through all the ' higher degrees,' knew as much about the principles and esoteric work of Masonry as an infant knows of Sanscrit."

The Texas Grand High Priest has a reference to the Past Master's degree which elicits from Comp. Gardner the following :

" The Past Master's degree, as treated by him and others, reminds us of those familiar lines of Hood :

" Rattle his bones over the stones,
He's a poor pauper whom nobody owns."

Poor old fellow ! if he's to be buried, let's bury him decently, not toss him about continually like a football."

M. E. Comp. Barnes was paid the high compliment of re-election to the office of Grand High Priest, a well-merited honor, but declined on account of business engagements.

Marvin J. Greenwood, Newark, Grand High Priest ;
Chris. G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

North Dakota.

Chapters 11 ; members 691.

Valley City on the 14th June, 1894, saw the fifth Convocation of Grand Chapter, over which presided M. E. Comp. David M. Holmes, Grand High Priest. He addressed the Companions briefly, expressing the hope that the clouds of adversity would soon roll by and the march forward be continued. He intended at

the outset to visit the Chapters but "could not spare the time from business."

Grand Secretary Wilder's report closed with a good-bye, his wife's health necessitating a removal to a distant part of the country. His successor, Comp. Thompson submitted a report, in which he says:

"I received from Comp. Wilder the sum of \$39.42 for which I gave bonds in the sum of \$4,000. I have handled about \$600. I think the bonds altogether too high for the money which passes through the hands of your Grand Secretary. Double the estimated amount is sufficient, but eight times the amount is a little high."

A petition for a new Chapter was received from Companions residing at Oakes.

New South Wales was accorded fraternal recognition.

There is nothing mean or exclusive about the Companions of North Dakota to judge from what followed the elections. A Companion whose identity the Proceedings fails to establish, but who ought to be immortalized, moved:

"That a public installation of the Grand Officers-elect be held at 8 o'clock p. m. at the same time and place with the Officers of the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star which this day has been organized. Carried."

And precisely on time Grand Chapter reassembled and called from labor to refreshment.

"The Officers-elect and members of the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star were then admitted. Mrs. Lorraine J. Pitkin, the Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of Eastern Star was presented to the M. E. Grand High Priest, who welcomed her and invited her to a seat near the Grand Council. The officers were then installed."

Place aux dames.

Now, in name of all that's ancient and decorous where is this thing going to end? It would be hard to blame Mrs. Grand Secretary Pitkin and the pretty lambs who followed her to school, although the fancy may be entertained that there are other places where their matronly services would have been better appreciated; but what about the Grand Chapter officers and their peculiar ideas of the proprieties. The General Grand Chapter, it is said, did not have much to engage its

attention at Topeka in 1894. North Dakota should furnish a choice subject for discussion at Baltimore in 1897.

In Canada we are wholly unacquainted with this Eastern Star pastime, beyond the fact that it is, as an irreverent and ungallant visiting brother at one time dubbed it in our presence "hen Masonry." True, we have experienced little epidemics of the new woman fad in harmless phases, but it has not yet broken out in the vicinity of a Masonic temple. When it does, it will not be heard of through the medium of a public installation.

There is little fear, however, that the feminine Mason will ever shine as a star, fixed or movable, on this side of the line. Our women do not seem to be of the peculiarly progressive "Mary Ellen" brand. They can regard their Masonic husband, brother or sweetheart with as much pride or affection from the sanctity of the home as if they were decked out in collars, jewels and titles and played at mystery in a Lodge room once a week. Meantime, for the sake of the Craft, we hope never again to read of a similar occurrence. This may be an old-fashioned way of looking at such things, but we can't help it.

Sylvester J. Hall, Fargo, Grand High Priest ; F. J. Thompson, Fargo, Grand Secretary.

Ohio.

Chapters 147 ; Members 13,373.

The Seventy-eighth Annual Convocation opened at Columbus, September 19, 1894, with the representatives of 139 Chapters in attendance. The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Orestes A. B. Senter, prefaced his address with the reading of a lengthy death roll.

Among the questions submitted to him is one that lacks sufficient explanation :

" One of our Blue Lodges uses some of our Chapter robes in conferring the Mark Master's degree. Some of the Chapter members object to it, but our High Priest says the robes are loaned by his authority."

The Grand High Priest decided that the property of the Chapter should not be loaned, but omitted to ask

how a Blue Lodge could confer a degree over which he alone has jurisdiction.

To another who asked if a dimit could be issued to a Companion engaged in the liquor saloon business, he replied by quoting the law :

“ A Companion who is engaged in retailing liquors in a saloon is guilty of un-masonic conduct, and therefore subject to the discipline of the Chapter.”

A Companion wrote for information concerning the membership of the largest secret organization in the U. S. and also in the world. The accommodating Grand High Priest furnishes him with the following statistics :

Number of Master Masons in the United States.....	780,000
“ Lodge Oddfellows in the United States.....	560,000
“ “ Knights of Pythias in the United States.	440,000
“ Members of the Ancient Order of United Work-	
men in the United States.....	290,000
“ Master Masons in the world.....	2,250,000
“ Odd Fellows (including Manchester Unity) in	
the world.....	1,750,000

The report of the Trustee of the Masonic Home shows that the brethren of Ohio realized that they had clothed themselves with a great responsibility and were endeavoring to live up to it. The receipts during the year were \$23,310.79.

Comp. S. Stacker Williams introduces his splendid report on Correspondence with a valuable historical preface and opens with the following extract from a letter written to him by Bro. W. J. Hughan, the English Masonic historian :

“ Thank you for letter and for reports, which are excellent, interesting and valuable, especially yours to the Grand Chapter of Ohio.

“ ‘About 1740 ’ will do well for the origin of the Royal Arch Degree, possibly, however, in the previous decade; but at any rate not earlier than say twenty years after the formation of the Grand Lodge of England, A. D., 1717. The country of its origin is still unknown, either England or France being the most probable solution. The ‘Ancients’ patronized the Royal Arch from their origin in 1751, not 1756, as you note. The degree is noted in the records as early as 1752. (See my ‘Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry,’ and the publications of our ‘Quatuor Coronati Lodge.’)

‘Ancient York Masons’ for any Lodge in America is a misnomer as you state.

“ The erroneous term arose through the ‘Ancients’ or ‘Atholl’

Grand Lodge mentioning Prince Edwin and York on their warrants, etc., but as all existing documents show, especially their records intact from 1752 to 1813, the Grand Lodge was always held in London, England.

"The old warrants in the United States of America also prove this fact. Yours is one of the best introductions on Royal Arch Masonry I have ever read."

Comp. Williams then proceeds :

"On consulting his 'Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry,' we find the first reference made in the records of the Atholl Grand Lodge to the Royal Arch Degree to be of March 4 1752. It reads as follows :

"*Grand Committee*.—A formal complaint was made by several brethren against Thos. Phealon and John Mackay, better known as '*Leg of mutton Masons*,' for clandestinely making Masons for the mean consideration of a *leg of mutton* for dinner or supper.

"Upon examining some brothers whom they pretended to have made *Royal Arch men*, the parties had not the least idea of that secret. The Grand Secretary had examined Mackay, and stated that he had not the least idea or knowledge of Royal Arch Masonry, but instead thereof he had told the people he had deceived, a long story about twelve marble stones, &c., &c., and that the rainbow was the Royal Arch, with many other absurdities equally foreign and ridiculous.

"We showed in our last report that the Royal Arch degree was fabricated some years before the organization of the schismatic or Atholl Grand Lodge. While this set at rest the story that it was a creation of this body, and while it is also true that the regular Grand Lodge propagated the degree, it must be admitted that the schismatic body was much more active in its propagation."

He then traces the early history and development of the Royal Arch degree on this continent at some length, all of which we would be glad to reproduce if permitted.

Noticing Michigan he refers to the Grand High Priest's visit to Monroe Chapter where was witnessed the conferring of the R. A. degree on thirty-six candidates. That this was not a record breaker he relates an incident within his own ken :

"In April, 1892, in a small town a few miles from Atlanta in the presence of the Grand High Priest, Comp. James W. Taylor, and a large number of Companions from Atlanta and other places, at the first Convocation of a Chapter under dispensation, when the roll of candidates elected was called *fifty-four* brethren came to the front. All of these were invested with the attributes of Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master's degree,

and we believe that when the Chapter closed at midnight (the work having been begun at one o'clock in the afternoon) all but two teams had the Royal Arch Degree. Next!"

No thanks. Enough in ours. Such a field day may be regarded as a glorious achievement, but what does it profit the Craft? Was it a necessity that fifty-four should be expressed through at that rate? To confer on that number of candidates the four degrees in eleven hours, somebody or something must have suffered, or else as the Grand High Priest was present, the workers may have been accorded privileges of an elastic nature. Comp. Williams omits to record his own impressions of the spectacle.

Under North Carolina he says :

" While we agree with our Companion as to the worthlessness of the Past Master's Degree, whether conferred in the Chapter or elsewhere, we fraternally advise him that it does not class with the Order of High Priesthood, which we hold to be one of the most impressive, sublime, and useful ceremonies in our whole Masonic System. While the former is, and has been for years, a subject of ridicule, we venture to say that Comp. Southgate has never heard anything but commendations with reference to the latter."

It may be all you say, Companion. Our ignorance precludes the possibility of contradiction, and furthermore we believe you; but just the same is it not, like the Past Master, of the Jonah's gourd class?

His review of Pennsylvania is interesting, and in view of the unfortunate fact that Canada is omitted from the list, we append some extracts :

" Under Canada he severely criticises the practice so general all over the country, and which has worked so satisfactorily in this jurisdiction, of printing in the Proceedings the names of Companions who are suspended for the non-payment of dues. The practice being so general and results so satisfactory, we hardly think it needs a word of defense, yet we will honor our M. E. Companion by noticing his observations to the extent of a few lines. Having condemned the practice, and kindly admonished our Companions of Canada as one loving brother should admonish another against the practice, he admits that many allow themselves to be suspended through carelessness, and says that *for such* he has *no sympathy*. Now, let him add to that class another composed of those who are miffed at something that has been done in the Chapter; somebody has been rejected, or somebody failed to secure an election to office and their friends take offense, and, as they suppose, punish the Chapter by withholding their dues. We say, take these two

classes and the list will contain few that allow themselves to be suspended.

“Our experience and observation has been that a Companion who is unable to pay his dues is seldom suspended for their non-payment, for our Companions advise themselves of the condition of such, and their dues are remitted. The Companion who has been unfortunate and is not able to pay, does not have to come up and plead his inability to pay.

“He says he cannot think or does not know of any good purpose it can serve, and can think of much harm it might do. We will tell him where it does good. Some very mean and unprincipled men become Masons; they are too *mean* to pay their dues, or to pay any other legal demands, too *lazy* to make a living even, and become *Masonic dead beats*. *Masonic tramps*. The country is full of them now, as we well know. They travel over the country and prey upon honest Masons. They do not hesitate to take a test oath—swear, if you please, that they are not suspended, when they know they are. From Proceedings in which the names of these gentlemen (?) are printed, we often catch them in a lie; but when one of them hails from a Jurisdiction where the names of the suspended are not printed, they have the advantage of us.”

Comp. Williams may not agree with us in everything, but in the matter of S.N.P.D., he is with us arm in arm.

Under Texas he says:

“Of the Grand Chapters of Canada, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and New Brunswick we have only to remark that all take jurisdiction over the degree of Past Master, giving it the same position in the system as is given it by the General Grand Chapter and its constituents.”

Comp. Williams had not received Canada's Proceedings or he would have observed that we have consigned the Past Master to the dull, dark, damp and dismal oblivion where Texas would willingly send it also.

Comp. Swain, of Wisconsin, having remarked that the new Grand Chapter of Victoria “had not yet established its own position in the Capitular family,” Comp. Williams observes:

This remark leads us to suspect that our esteemed Companion is not fully advised as to the position and standing of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria.”

To which with all due respect we hasten to add, “there are others.”

Gibson H. Robinson, Cleveland, Grand High Priest;
Chas. C. Kiefer, Urbana, Grand Secretary.

Pennsylvania.

Chapters 119; Members 15,479.

On St. John's Day, in December, 1894, the Annual Convocation opened in the Masonic Temple, Philadelphia. Grand High Priest Edgar A. Tennis read his address, which was marked by little of general interest.

Among his decisions was the ruling out of an applicant with only one leg. He also decided that an officer of a Chapter could not resign.

Harmony Chapter, No. 52, celebrated its centennial during the year, and reference is made to the eventful occasion. Another coming century event is thus announced:

"Before our next Annual Convocation we shall have passed the Centennial Anniversary of the organization of this Grand Chapter, and it is but fitting that we should celebrate this event in a manner becoming the age, dignity and importance of our Grand Body. Three generations of men have completed their life-work, and the record of many of them renowned in Masonic life, together with the proud record of our Jurisdiction, will furnish an inspiration to celebrate our long and prosperous career with joy and thanksgiving. As Pennsylvania Royal Arch Masons we enjoy the proud distinction of having first conferred the degree of Royal Arch Masonry in America, and we are also the first Grand Chapter to celebrate a centennial organization. We shall look forward therefore with pride and pleasure to the Autumn day when with open arms we may welcome to this Temple not only the devoted Companions of our jurisdiction, but the honored and beloved Companions of many Grand Chapters on this Continent."

The incoming Grand High Priest in a neat address after the installation referred to the anniversary also:

"The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania was formed by our Grand Lodge on the 23rd day of November, 1795, under the following resolution unanimously adopted: 'Be it therefore and it is hereby resolved, That a Grand Chapter be opened under the immediate sanction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.'

"Resolutions defining its membership, powers and place of meeting were also adopted. This action by the Grand Lodge was taken for the protection of Ancient Masonry and rendered necessary by the irregular and unauthorized attempt of an unaffiliated Mason, one James Molan, in 1705, to form a Grand Chapter under the warrants of Lodges No. 19, 52 and 67, which attempt was promptly suppressed by the Grand Lodge through the exercise of its disciplinary powers—perfect harmony was,

however, subsequently restored. The Grand Chapter thus formed continued under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, whose Grand Master was ex-officio Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter until 1824, when the Grand Chapter was made an independent body, electing its own officers as at present. This, Companions, is a brief sketch of the early history of our Grand Chapter, whose one hundredth anniversary is close upon us."

At the Quarterly Convocation in June a letter was read from Comp. W. J. Hugban, of Torquay, England, which will be found of some interest coming from such a source. It has reference to the antiquity of the Mark degree :

"Until the last few weeks the earliest known reference to the esoteric Mark *Degree* was the year of 1773, viz., on the records of the Craft Lodge, No. 124, at Durham, England.

"Bro. Alexander Howell, of Portsmouth, who is now completing the publication of his History of the 'Phoenix Lodge,' of that Town, has just come across a cypher in one of the Minute Books of the 'Chapter of Friendship' No. 257, which has supplied him with the '*key*' to the earliest volume of its Records in 1769, all of which is in cypher, and never traced until now.

"The cypher is peculiar, and, so far as I know, only met with in this MS., and not being of a regular kind, (that is, not *running* as usual) was not made out previously.

"It is most extraordinary for a whole volume of records to be in cypher, *but this is*, and begins in the year when the Chapter was formed, viz., 1769, and ends in 1786. When I wrote the History of the Chapter in 1890, the earliest records then traced were of the year 1787.

"The first entry is as follows :

"At a Royal Arch Chapter held at the George Tavern in Portsmouth on First Sept'r Seventeen hundred and sixty nine : Present : Thomas Dunkerley Esq., William Cook, 'Z,' Samuel Palmer, 'H,' Thomas Scanville, 'J,' Henry Dean, Phillip Joye and Thomas Webb. The 'Pro. G. M.' Thomas Dunkerley bro't the Warrant of the Chapter, and having lately rec'd the 'Mark' he made the bre'n. 'Mark Masons' and 'Mark Masters' and each chose their Mark. (&c.) He also told us of this mann'r of writing, which is to be used in the degree w'ch we may give to others, so they be F. C. for Mark Masons, and Master M. for Mark Masters."

"Like all early Records respecting the Mark Degree, this proves there were two ceremonies ; the 'Mark Man' or Mason, for Fellow Crafts, and the 'Mark Master' for Master Masons ; and as it is also the first and only time that Dunkerley's name is found in connection with the Mark, the minute is of great value and importance.

“ I still hope for earlier notices of the degree, especially as in print and MS. we can now trace the Royal Arch back to the fifth decade of the last century.

“ Of course the antiquity of the Mark as an *operative* custom is virtually prehistoric. Marks were chosen by *speculative* as well as *operative* members of Lodges back to the year 1600 by evidence, and doubtless much earlier.

“ We students will continue our researches, in hope and belief that more discoveries await the light.”

The Committee on Correspondence divide up the work between them. There are five Companions appointed, viz.: M. H. Henderson, Charles Carey, J. S. Africa, J. L. Lyte and J. P. Clark. Each has about ten Proceedings to review, and as Canada is high upon the alphabet, it falls to the lot of the first named. From their introduction we cull the following, which some Companions in the woolly west might peruse with benefit :

“ Mixed with our pleasant reflections are feelings of apprehension lest the enthusiasm of some of our members may carry them too far, and that losing sight of true Free Masonry they be captivated by those ornamental societies which attach themselves to it and derive their sustenance from it. Mystic Shrines, Chapters of the Eastern Star, Councils of the Red Cross of Constantine, and such like may be good in their place, and we do not wish to be understood as speaking disrespectfully of them or offering any objection to their existence, provided they are estimated at their true value. Outside of Free Masonry and having no connection with it, although attached to it, they must ever be held in inferior estimation if not altogether discarded by the true Mason.

“ It is a fact sad to relate that some men attracted by showy uniforms and fantastic ceremonies apply to our Lodges and Chapters with no better object than the hope of being able to reach these side institutions and participate in their pilgrimages and other festive occasions. This done, they pay no further attention to Masonry than to keep their dues paid, because they must do so in order to retain membership in the bodies of their choice. Such members are no credit to Masonry, nor are they any lasting benefit to the other bodies ; surfeited at last with pleasures, their interest flags and finally ceases. Having squeezed the lemon they throw away the rind and seek new enjoyments.”

To those who cling to that excrescence, the Past Master's degree, the following may be comforting :

“ We have observed that what is popularly termed the Past Master's degree is becoming a disturbing element in many of our Sister Jurisdictions. As it never was a part of our

Capitular system, we are only interested so far as the good of the fraternity outside of our own jurisdiction is concerned. That the subject is under discussion both in Grand Chapters and the Masonic press interests us much, for we believe that a calm and sensible consideration of it can have but one result, that of excluding it forever from the Chapter where it is a usurper and where there is not the shadow of an excuse for retaining it."

The Committee follow with half a dozen similar extracts, taken from the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters, and says :

"No two of the above quotations are taken from the same jurisdiction. Each voices the opinion of a separate and individual writer, showing that the dissatisfaction in regard to the prevailing method of using the degree is not confined to any particular jurisdiction or locality, but is wide spread and constantly increasing.

"We have no idea what action the General Grand Chapter will take on this question, and whatever it may do will not affect us. The only interest we feel in their action is the effect it will have on what we consider an inconsistency prevailing outside of our own jurisdiction. The degree belongs to the Symbolic not the Capitular system, and the Grand Lodge is its proper custodian.

"The first action must come from the Grand Chapters. Let them repudiate the abortion they are now fostering. Then let the Grand Lodges assume control of the legitimate degree which belongs to them, and by whatever means they deem best give those brethren the use of it who desire to advance. Thus will consistency be preserved and this vexed question be settled.

"Time sets all things straight, and that some day in the future the good sense of our esteemed Companions will prevail, we confidently believe."

Comp. Henderson gives Canada credit for regularity in sending out its Proceedings, and notices the latter with characteristic generosity. Quoting Comp. Robertson on the subject of Marks, he says :

"We quote the foregoing for the information of our readers. When Masonry was operative, a mark composed of straight lines, and points was no doubt best because it could be quickly executed and required no special artistic skill in its portrayal. But now, when Masonry has lost its operative character and has become a speculative science, and the Brethren are not required to reproduce their Marks upon their own handiwork, we think they may be allowed more latitude. We agree with Companion Meyer that a reproduction of the Washington Monument or the Columbian Exposition is too elaborate, but there is a happy medium which can be observed with good effect. Our own mark is a right hand clutching five arrows. We admired

the design and as we are not obliged to indent it on everything we make, it suits our purpose quite as well and is more pleasing to our eye than if it was composed of straight lines and points exclusively."

Further on he says :

" They permit dual membership in Canada. We do not permit it because we can conceive of no necessity for it or advantage in it, and because we think it might at times interfere seriously with Masonic duties. If a Companion in Canada who belonged to two Chapters was summoned by each to appear before it at the same time, how would he divide himself so as to obey each summons ?"

Just as you would Companion Henderson, if subpoenaed to two courts sitting simultaneously--arrange the matter with the Judge. The possibility of such a contingency you will say is remote. So it is in the other case. The presiding officer of a Chapter, who is not always as wise as the occupant of the bench, could not reasonably ask a Companion to emulate Sir Boyle Roche's bird. A judge to expect the impossible would be voted an ass. Put it in a harder way next time, Companion.

Comp. Africa quotes Comp. Bowen's adverse criticisms on the concealed feminine choir as an adjunct to the degrees, and says :

" We cordially endorse these comments of Comp Bowen. We need more Watchmen on the Towers like him, who have both the ability and courage to speak out plainly against these modern innovations. On this as well as on many other points of nineteenth century progress, the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of the *Commonwealth* of Pennsylvania joins the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the *Commonwealth* of Massachusetts, in entering protest against departure from the ancient usages and customs, as well as the Landmarks, which none dare remove. None but Masons can lawfully be admitted within a tyled Lodge or Chapter."

And under Minnesota :

" Yes, public installations are dangerous departures from the ancient usages and customs and the incorporation of Lodges and Chapters will, sooner or later, bring trouble to those who obtain them or to their successors.

On a grand visitation some years ago, the R. W. Grand Master of Pennsylvania learned that one of the Lodges visited had obtained a charter of incorporation. He immediately notified the Lodge that the charter must be surrendered and the corporation dissolved on pain of a sequestration of its warrant. His command was complied with."

"In Pennsylvania it is our pride to observe and enforce 'the ancient usages, customs and landmarks of the Fraternity,' and to resist any innovations thereof, as we understand them. The closer we adhere to the lines laid down by our fathers the safer our institution will be. Freemasonry has stood the storms of centuries, and will exist to the end of time if we and those who come after us keep the faith."

Companion Hedge's plea for feminine companionship receives this rebuke:

"We cordially indorse and emphasize Companion Hedge's excellent tribute to the 'best of humanity,' but we must remind him that the Society of Freemasons was from the beginning and is now for men and for men only. If installation of the officers of a Grand or subordinate Chapter can be conducted in public, why not other exercises?"

Ezra S. Bartlett, Philadelphia, Grand High Priest ;
Charles Carey, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

Quebec.

Chapters 18; Members 472.

M. E. Comp. E. T. D. Chambers, Grand Z., presided over the Eighteenth Annual Convocation of our sister Grand Chapter in Montreal on the 29th January, 1895, and delivered an impressive and instructive address:

"Financial reverses have fallen upon some of our Capitular household, with whom we sympathize; but as a people we have been happily preserved from the full force of those disastrous commercial crises, that in other lands have paralyzed trade, clogged the wheels of commerce and strewn their train with thousands of financial wrecks. We have heard in our large cities, though not to the same extent as in other important centres, the occasional cries of our unemployed for work or bread; but we have been spared the scourge of the professional agitator, who has elsewhere raised armies of desperate recruits, bent upon the destruction of society's safeguards and the products of other men's labor. Death in official station has necessitated state changes in our own country, but how marked, and satisfactory to us, the contrast between the manner of their accomplishment here, where the God of Masonry is honored, and the terrifying socialistic cries that greet similar changes abroad, in lands where even Masonry has so far forgotten itself as to remove the very name of the God of Peace from its Proceedings."

Of the condition of the Craft he says:

"Peace, perfect peace, and a reasonable measure of prosperity, have marked the labors of the Subordinate Chapters during the past year. Steady progress, which, if not of rapid, is yet of healthy growth, is reported from almost every part of our

jurisdiction, notwithstanding the hostility to our Order of more than three-fourths of the population of this Province, and the depressing effects of a bad business year.

"I feel constrained to take this opportunity of reminding you, and through you the membership of our Subordinate Chapters, that not one in seven of the Master Masons of our jurisdiction are as yet in possession of any but the substituted secrets of the Master's degree. Each one of us, for whom time and circumstances have revealed the genuine ones, have a duty to perform towards our uninformed brethren. We can at least dispense the light and knowledge that shall successfully lead them to the discovery of that of which every true, every zealous Free Mason is in search."

He issued a dispensation to sixteen Companions desirous of forming a Chapter at Sutton in the county of Brome, and Grand Chapter subsequently endorsed the report of the committee recommending a charter.

He reminded the Companions through an enquiry received, that the edict of non-intercourse with England was still in force, and as binding upon them as when issued.

President Chamberlin, of the Ohio Council of the Order of High Priesthood, wrote him asking for an opportunity to open up a correspondence with a view to introducing the Order into Quebec. He replied :

"As we have no High Priests in our Jurisdiction, I presume we cannot very well have a Council of High Priests. Our Chapters of Royal Arch Masons follow the English system of nomenclature and order of officers, the presiding First Principal being King instead of Priest and bearing the title 'Z' or 'Zerubbabel.'"

He commends his successor in the reviewing of Foreign Correspondence, M. E. Comp. Will. H. Whyte, to the tender mercies of the Companions, and pays that worthy Mason, who by the way is no tyro at the work, a merited tribute.

The Grand Scribe E.'s report directed attention to the carelessness displayed by private Chapters in the matter of registering Marks, and recommended that Quebec join the Collectors' Association for the preservation of records, proceedings, etc.

After a lapse of eight years during which the gap has been ably filled by Comp. Chambers, that old war horse Comp. Whyte re-assumes the reportorial quill, and indulges in a little sad retrospection as he thinks of

those with whom he used to tilt in days gone by, and who now have "crossed the bar."

Analytically he inspects the doings of forty-six Grand Chapters and presents a very entertaining report. Noticing Canada's resolution to bury the Past Master, he says :

"We have always deemed it unfortunate that the early American ritualists tacked on this degree to the Capitular curriculum. As a degree there is nothing to it or in common with the others."

Nova Scotia fears that other Grand Chapters in the Dominion may be confounded with that of Canada owing to the Australian matter. A case is instanced of a Companion of Keith Chapter, Halifax, who is wandering somewhere under the Southern Cross, and anxiety is expressed that antipodean Chapter gates may be shut against him because he hails from a Province of Canada.

Comp. Whyte thereupon soliloquizes and eases his mind.

"It is extremely sad to think what an unfortunate position this seafaring Son of Keith would find himself in, if he could not intelligibly explain to which jurisdiction in Canada he belonged. However, our 'Bluenose' friends are usually very bright and intelligent Masons, and we have no fears for the Companion referred to. Regarding the nomenclature of our Ontario Grand Chapter, (Canada), there is some just cause for the remarks made by our Nova Scotia Companion."

Again he displays his remarkable aptitude for seizing the opportunity, when in setting aright the Pennsylvania reviewer on the subject of the Quebec-England matter, he interjects the old reminder :

"The Grand Lodge of England (Blue) holds her three Lodges in the Province of Quebec, upon the ground that they were settled in this Province before any Grand Body was formed; either the Grand Lodge of Canada (who afterwards retired from the Province of Quebec and now has only jurisdiction in the Province of Ontario, although she still holds to the name 'Canada,') or the Grand Lodge of Quebec, who now claims supreme authority in this Province."

He evidently believes there is much in a name. So do we, but it would be difficult indeed to bring about a change to satisfy everybody. Even a new and ornate baptismal ceremony with musical trimmings thrown in, would not effect the heart's desire of our patriotic Com-

panion. The Grand Lodge of Canada received its name in the good old legitimate fashion and it sticks like a burr.

“ You may break, you may shatter the vase if you will,
But the scent of the roses will hang round it still.”

In correcting the Ohio reporter, who, he declares got “mixed up” on “Canada,” he harps on the same theme :

“ The trouble with Victoria is between that Province and the Grand Chapter of Canada, which latter holds jurisdiction only over the Province of Ontario, and is not the, but a, Grand Chapter of a Province in the Dominion of Canada.

“ So far as we have information the Grand Chapter of Victoria was formed as an adjunct to the Grand Lodge of the same name, the Grand Master being ex-officio the Grand Z. (Grand High Priest), and with jurisdiction only over the Arch. The Canadians in Victoria were refused a voice in the formation, and if they joined Victoria would have to cast out the intermediate degrees. Under these circumstances it is somewhat surprising to us how eagerly some of the American Grand Chapters have accorded recognition to a system decidedly foreign to their own, ignoring the Companions who were upholding the American system.”

True, O King. And it is fair to assume also that if one of these recognized Victorian Royal Arch Masons were to stray towards Ohio, Wisconsin, or some others of the meekly submissive and dutiful jurisdictions, he would either have to be fumigated (healed) or go to the right-about, a snubbed, unrecognized Companion hailing from a recognized Grand Chapter. The position in which those intermediate degrees place our Companions across the border, and with their own free will and consent too, is peculiar, and would be amusing, were not its capabilities for inconsistency and injustice so deplorably apparent.

E. T. D. Chambers, Quebec, Grand Z.; Will H. Whyte, Montreal., Grand Scribe E.

Rhode Island.

Chapters 10 ; Members 2,305.

The Proceedings of the Annual Convocation held at Providence, March 13, 1894, are embraced within a pamphlet of 34 pages, yet the halo of antiquity under which the Grand Chapter securely rests, makes them interesting at any time.

Its oldest Chapter, Providence No. 1., constituted in 1793, has on its register the names of 1,059 Companions, or nearly half the entire membership.

Grand Chapter organized in 1798 has on its roll of Grand High Priests the name of Thomas S. Webb who held that position from 1804 to 1814 inclusive. And among those living we find the name of M. E. Rev. Henry W. Rugg, whose writings are familiar to the Masonic reader, as well as others distinguished in the annals of the jurisdiction.

Like Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia, this Grand Chapter prefers to bask in its own sunshine rather than join the happy family under the wing of the General Grand Chapter.

M. E. Comp. Horace K. Blanchard, Grand High Priest, presided over the Ninety-sixth Annual Convocation. He reported a continuance of prosperity in all the Chapters and made special mention of the auspicious celebration of its hundredth anniversary by Providence Chapter.

He commissioned our Grand H., R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, the representative of Rhode Island near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The absence of decisions and reports of Committees on Grievances or Jurisprudence would seem to indicate that "white winged peace" broods over "Little Rhody."

The social feature is sustained by this Grand Chapter with praiseworthy regularity and forethought as witnesseth this truly British resolution :

"That the bill for the annual dinner this day provided be paid when audited by the Grand Stewards, and they are hereby directed to provide the usual dinner at the next Annual Convocation."

Albert L. Anthony, Providence, Grand High Priest ;
W. R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.

South Carolina.

Chapters 21 ; Members 681.

The Eighty-fourth Annual Convocation held in the city of Charleston, on 12th February, 1895, witnessed a large representation. M. E. Comp. J. T. Barron presided and read the customary address. Under "Condition of the Craft," he says :

" This Grand Chapter has, from time to time, issued its charter to forty-four Subordinate Chapters. From one cause or another, there were, some six years since, only about one-fourth of these Chapters, with a membership of about three hundred, really working.

" At that time the Grand Chapter was harassed with debt, and the faithful ones saw but little 'silver lining to the dark cloud' that hung over them and threatened the very existence of this Grand Chapter. To-day I am happy to proclaim, we have about twenty active Chapters, and a membership of over six hundred ; we are free from debt, with a comfortable working balance in the treasury ; and we have resumed the publication of a review of the proceedings of other Grand Jurisdictions. But it is a matter of regret and concern that we have so many unaffiliated Craftsmen in our jurisdiction. Twenty years ago we had more than nine hundred affiliated Royal Arch Masons. Owing to the great distances between our Chapters, there is little inducement for old members of defunct Chapters to affiliate elsewhere, since they cannot enjoy the meetings nor participate in the work of a Chapter. The only way I can see to reclaim this army of non-affiliates is to revive their old Chapters."

And adds, as a wind up, this injunction which being interpreted by the uncharitable might mean that he was, like the restless Milesian, "spoiling for a fight."

" Just one word more on the general condition of the Craft: If we practice and live up to the obligations to which we have subscribed, the stereotyped report, which I now make that 'peace and harmony prevail,' might, with the utmost propriety and the sweetest relief, be scrupulously omitted."

A re-issue of commissions to representatives was authorized, Comp. G. V. T. Greenhill, of Canada, being among those honored. The Grand High Priest devoted a page to the transactions of the General Grand Chapter at Topeka, but tenderly refrained from any direct allusion to Ford Riley.

As a matter affecting representatives he says :

" Our efforts to secure the usual excursion rates for delegates to this Annual Convocation were rendered, for the most

part, fruitless, by the refusal of M. Slaughter, Esq., Assistant Commissioner of the Southern Passenger Association, to grant the same. In view of this increase of mileage to be paid by the Grand Chapter and other new expenses, I think it unwise to follow the example set at the last two Annual Convocations of paying per diem for one extra day."

Under such cruel circumstances the appending of "Esq." to the cruel name of the Assistant Commissioner was a rare and touching display of generosity, a whole ton of blazing anthracite heaped on the obdurate head of that railway man. Over here we'd have substituted "hog."

Twenty dollars in lieu of twenty-five as formerly was made the minimum fee for the degrees.

A Charleston Chapter working in the German language was permitted to surrender its charter because it had only one Blue Lodge to draw from and confessed its inability to continue.

The recommendation of the Grand High Priest that a day be lopped off the per diem allowance in order to get even with the grasping railway official, was not favorably received by the committee, and Grand Chapter thinking it would be better to seek satisfaction some other way, endorsed the committee.

The section of the constitution which determined the amount to be paid for the degree was amended by adding:

"Except upon ministers of God, upon whom the degrees may be conferred for such sums as the Chapter may deem sufficient to pay the actual expenses thereof, including fees to the Grand Chapter for the same."

Why this was done deponent sayeth not. Ministers of God, as we know them, are generally as well able to pay their way as the majority of applicants, and we presume they are as well looked after in the genial south as in the bracing north. Constructing an entrance for admission to the ground floor has been the cause of much trouble in the past in other jurisdictions. Clergymen, of course, are all good men, but there are solitary cases recorded where they did not give away their entire stipend in charity, and there are instances, too, where such a suggestion as that implied in the amendment

would be accepted as a very doubtful compliment. It may be all right, however, in South Carolina.

Comp. A. E. Fugle, Grand Secretary, undertook the task of furnishing the Correspondence report and succeeded admirably, taking Comp. Stacker Williams as his model. Most favorably does he mention Canada and congratulates us on our prosperity.

J. T. Barrow, Columbia, Grand High Priest ; A. E. Fyle, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

South Dakota.

Chapters 26 ; Members 1500.

The Fifth Annual Convocation was held on 14th June, 1894, at Hot Springs.

M. E. Comp. Robert T. Sedam, Grand High Priest, in opening called the attention of the Companions to the fact that death had for the first time invaded that Grand Body. On the last day of the dying year R. E. Comp. John E. Bennett, Grand Scribe, was called away.

"Comp. Bennett was a born nobleman, a kingly man. His merits were recognized by the nation he served so well during the dark hours of her peril ; by three states whose citizen he has been ; by the Masonic bodies of which he was a highly esteemed and honored member."

There was little to trouble the Grand High Priest during his term.

"Nothing has transpired to mar the harmony prevailing among the Craft during the past year. No grievances no complaints having reached me lead to this conclusion. Reports from the several Chapters show a gratifying increase in membership. Our relations with other jurisdictions remain friendly and we seem to be at peace with the whole Masonic world."

"No questions of jurisprudence have been asked which could not be answered by reference to our constitution and by-laws. Evidently the officers of the several Chapters are conversant with usages, customs and laws of the Craft."

Eureka ! If only that delightful state of things existed everywhere, correspondents would have nothing to do but pelt each other with roses.

Of the Chapters, according to the Secretary's report, all had made returns and reported a healthy increase. The Treasury revealed a balance of \$1475.06.

A resolution was adopted providing that "a candi-

date must apply for the degrees to the Chapter nearest his residence unless jurisdiction is waived by said nearest Chapter."

Wonder if the absence of that regulation was responsible for the holy calm that characterized the year.

Grand Chapter thanked the resident Companions and citizens for courtesies received at their hands "during our sojourn at the Carlsbad of South Dakota." This pretty ad. we presume was endorsed d. h.

Comp. Levoy, owing to the indisposition of the Grand Secretary, undertook the report on Correspondence. His country, however, demanded his services at an awkward period, and to the call of duty he promptly responded. He was released from "the jury box" about the middle of March, without a scratch, and in the limited time at his disposal, prepared a first-rate report, in which Canada for 1893 appears to advantage.

Under New South Wales, he says :

"The writer is deeply interested in Masonry in the Antipodes, having first been brought to light in a Lodge on the Lachlan River in New South Wales some thirteen years ago. At that time there was no Grand Lodge, and we never heard of a Chapter, much less a Grand Chapter. There existed, however, in Sydney a Lodge of Mark Masters, which we at that time thought was the summit of Masonry, and he who could aspire to become a Mark Master was to us a being of more than ordinary qualifications.

"Since coming to America the scales have fallen from our eyes, and we have been instructed in the greater mysteries."

Of the action of North Carolina's Chief Officer in acceding to the request of Chapters to shorten the time limit, he says :

"He mars his whole year's work by the wholesale granting of dispensations waiving constitutional time on candidates for Royal Arch honors, in one case specially that Five Master Masons might be made Knights Templar. Now we would like to ask what good to Royal Arch Masonry these men will be—rushed through these beautiful degrees with lightning rapidity and dubbed Sir Knight in the same breath. Well, we want none of it in ours, and the Commandery who accepts such material is welcome to it, but we venture the assertion that material of this kind when tried will be found wanting.

"The Committee of Jurisprudence to whom this portion of the report was sent stamped it with their approval by endorsing his acts, and thus leaves a road open for future Grand High Priests to evade the Law."

Missouri's hesitancy to enact a law making it imperative on a candidate to select a Mark, elicits the following :

" We do not concur in the above, as we are of the opinion that while the O. B. of a M. M. is not mandatory in this particular, yet in order to comply with same, one must select and record his Mark, and we believe that Grand Chapters should enact a law making it obligatory upon each Mark Master that before being received and acknowledged they must select a Mark and have it recorded."

Adverting to Pennsylvania's contempt for the expression "team," and the suggestion that the P. S. must be a "teamster," he says :

" Well, we in South Dakota call it team. It expresses fully what we mean to convey, and we don't call the P. S. a teamster either. What's in a name anyhow as long as the work is properly conducted ? We don't see the point."

There is something in a name, Companion, after all, especially in connection with a degree that should be beautiful and impressive in all its details. The expression is handy ; that is all to be said in its favor, but it is a blot nevertheless.

Pennsylvania's correspondent instructs his confrere of Illinois to the following effect

" We would say that with us no Master Mason can apply for the Mark Degree or M. E. or R. A. Degrees unless he has first passed the Chair (i. e. become a Past Master.) Our Chapters have nothing to do with or know anything about conferring the Past Master Degree."

Comp. Levoy thereupon fires this pertinent poser :

" From the above we conclude that there are at present in Pennsylvania 14,772 actual Past Masters of Lodges. We would like to ask if each Master is elected for three months ? Otherwise we do not grasp the idea of there being so many R. A. M. in Pennsylvania as the above figures convey."

In closing his excellent report Comp. Levoy, whom by the way, we cordially congratulate on his elevation, says :

" Harmony exists throughout the length and breadth of this Grand Republic and almost throughout the world in Capitular matters, with the exception of the slight cloud on the horizon between our neighbors (Canada) on the north and far away Victoria, in the Antipodes, which storm cloud we hope will soon pass away."

So mote it be.

Louis G. Levoy, Webster, Grand High Priest ;
Geo. A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, Grand Secretary.

Tennessee.

Chapters 64 ; Members 2,684.

Grand High Priest James H. McClister presided at the Sixty-sixth Annual Convocation, held in Nashville on Jan. 28, 1895. It was in the gloom of a deep sorrow that the Companions assembled, for within the year three shining lights of this Grand Chapter had been extinguished.

George C. Connor, John Frizzell and John W. Hughes, all known and loved within the borders of Tennessee.

To the outside Masonic world the names of the two former were especially familiar. Comp. Connor's research was unbounded, and his writings and addresses made him a valuable acquisition to any Masonic circle. A native of the Green Isle he possessed in a rare measure the pungent humor characteristic of his countrymen, and with it liberally garnished the pleasant reports which were so welcome to the Craft everywhere. In 1878 he was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and the following year Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery. In the Chapter he was content to climb to Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee. As Comp. Foster in his obituary notice says :

"A remarkable man has gone from among us, one in many respects unique. Of wonderful versatility, close observation, quick perception and untiring energy, his influence, wisely directed, was powerful, and usually conclusive in the cause which he espoused."

John Frizzell was the first Mason in Tennessee who filled the highest offices in all the different Grand Bodies of Masonry, and he was profoundly learned in them all. Comp. Warr, who furnishes his biography, thus writes :

"As a Freemason, John Frizzell was pre-eminent ; he had few equals—no superiors—in this wide world of ours. He was indeed a Master Mason. He knew its ethics, its rationale, its laws and its ritual. In fact, he has been the law and ritual in this State for many years."

"In response to an inquiry of a friend some time ago, regarding his life, he said : 'I started on nothing. I assisted my father in raising his family. Whatever success I have attained in life I owe to the faith I have in the providence of God. That

God will take care of and prosper those who trust in Him, I honestly believe. In business my father taught me that whatever is worth doing at all is worth being well done. Under my father's training I have given great attention to details, and this is the secret of all success.'"

Past Grand High Priest Hughes was a true and zealous Mason, who by an upright, modest and unobtrusive life had earned the affection of his brethren.

"No Companion, be he humble or exalted, e'er felt constrained or embarrassed in his presence. No! he had a happy mode of welcoming to his heart every true man who, by walk and conversation, exhibited the characteristic beauties of Masonry."

Canada mourns with Tennessee in the hour of her affliction, and across the broad interval which fraternity makes so narrow, sends with sympathetic love this humble leaf of maple to lay upon the bier of her gifted sons.

"By foreign hands thy humble grave adorned,
By strangers honored and by strangers mourned."

The Grand High Priest decided that it was not necessary for a King or Scribe to serve one term to render him eligible for the office of High Priest. The Jurisprudence Committee placed the seal of their approval on this.

He made many visitations and reported well of the work, also of banquets at some places and the "hand arounds" at others.

One of the Chapters complained of an invasion of jurisdiction by a Virginia Chapter; and the Appeals Committee shouldered it on to the incoming High Priest to adjust.

In accordance with a resolution the Jurisprudence Committee recommended the following form for a "widow's certificate" to be used by subordinate Chapters:

WIDOW'S CERTIFICATE.

..... Chapter No., Royal Arch Masons, held at
..... in County, State of Tennessee.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

KNOW YE, That Mrs., whose name is written in the margin, in her own handwriting, is the widow of our beloved Companion., who was a Royal Arch

Mason, and a member of this Chapter in good standing at the time of his death. As such we commend her to the care and protection of all Royal Arch Masons.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Chapter, this....day of Anno Inv. 21..

(L. S.) H. P.

....., King.

....., Scribe.

.....Secretary.

This is novel to say the least, and at first sight bears all the outward and visible indications of a danger signal. So long as the reform is confined to Tennessee we shall be content. If the thing spreads, it is obvious that future "warning circulars" will be adorned with the elder Weller's parental admonition.

A resolution was adopted favoring the abolition of the Grand Representative system among constituent Grand Chapters of the General Grand Chapter as "a custom anomalous among the members of a common family;" which is suspiciously kin to an admission that complete sovereignty is only to be enjoyed by the General Body. This is probably the reason why a few Grand Chapters prefer to remain in glorious independence.

Before closing Grand Chapter, appropriate memorial services were held in honor of the illustrious dead.

Comp. Henry H. Ingersoll assumes the Correspondent's mantle laid aside by the lamented Connor, and furnishes a very entertaining report. Of Canada he says:

"A plump, scarlet-colored volume of one hundred and forty pages, with an appended correspondent's report of eighty-two pages, comes to us from the Grand Chapter of Canada, and happily represents the prosperity and high character of that Grand Jurisdiction. It is interesting to note the ancient terminology used in the Grand Chapters of the Dominion, as well as in the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters in England: 'The Grand Council on the Throne' are styled respectively Grand 'Z,' Grand 'H,' Grand 'J'; then come the Grand Scribe 'E' and the Grand Scribe 'N.' The Secretary is called Registrar, and there are two Assistant Sojourners; a Director of Ceremonies and an Organist in addition to the usual officers, and the list concludes with the Grand Janitor."

No harm done, only that the Secretary is not the Registrar. He is the Scribe E.

"A peculiar idiom in this and other Grand Jurisdictions held under the British Flag, is noticeable at the election of officers. They appoint 'scrutineers' of the ballot instead of tellers, who doubtless cast their 'scrutin eye' at the votes of the Companions before reporting the result."

A "peculiar" idea pervades the great American bosom, that anything not familiar to the great American eye must necessarily be wrong. We can assure our good Companion that there are more "peculiar idioms" than the above under the British flag, and like it they "get there" every time. He disposes of us thus generously:

"We close this Canadian report of proceedings with admiration of its paper, its printing, its style and its subject-matter, and congratulate our Companions over the Lakes upon their excellence and prosperity."

Under England and Wales, he says:

"The festival presided over by the Earl of Euston at 'Free Masons' Tavern' in 1890, had no less than one hundred and sixty-nine stewards, and the amount announced was two thousand, three hundred and fifty-four pounds. For real genuine benevolence, this beats an American Charity Ball.

"There is no report of Foreign Correspondence contained in this volume, and so far aught we know our brethren over the water are in darkest ignorance of affairs in Tennessee."

Probably they are. But it is only another instance, Companion, of the deplorable condition of things existing outside the United States. We can understand the liberality which prompts a toleration of "idiom" from Canada, but that the Companions of Great Britain should be "in darkest ignorance of affairs in Tennessee" is something incomprehensible and to a sensitive Tennessean must be "shocking, positively shocking."

A. G. Kimbrough, Germantown, Grand High Priest;
W. A. Glendenning, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

Texas.

Chapters 134; Members 5681.

The Forty-fifth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Houston, December 4, 1894, eighty-four Chapters being represented. Grand High Priest Frank Nusom

presided, and delivered a lengthy address under the usual heads.

He appealed to the Companions to settle at once the question of returning to, or staying out of, the General Grand Chapter's family. Grand Chapter did settle the matter subsequently by the passage of the following resolution to which an overwhelming majority agreed :

“ Resolved, That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas returns its thanks to the General Grand Chapter of the United States for its courtesy to the committee of this Grand Chapter, which visited that Body at Topeka in August last.

“ Resolved, That while entertaining the highest respect and most cordial brotherly feeling for the Royal Arch Masons who are members of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, as well as for all those Grand Chapters which acknowledge its jurisdiction and supremacy, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas deems it inexpedient to surrender its own sovereignty as an independent Masonic Body, and believes that the true interests of Capitular Masonry will be the best promoted by adhering to the action it has already taken toward the General Grand Chapter of the United States.”

A question of jurisdiction was decided by the Grand High Priest and his decision approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence, which reveals a singular elasticity in dealing with the law. The case, as stated by the Companion appointed to investigate, is thus simply put:

“ Companion J. D. Miller's father lives in Collinsville. Companion J. D. Miller was raised there and lived there up to the time he left for Dexter, in Cook's County, where he engaged in business, but being unmarried, still called Collinsville his home. He applied for and received the Blue Lodge degrees at Dexter, after which he remained at Dexter two years before he applied for the Chapter degrees. He voted at Dexter and was still living there when he applied to Collinsville Chapter ; that Dexter is fifteen miles from Whitesboro, where the other Chapter is located, and twenty-two miles from Collinsville. The best of feeling prevails between the two Chapters, and the only thing necessary to a settlement was for me to decide which Chapter had jurisdiction.

“ I decided that he was under the jurisdiction of Whitesboro Chapter, and directed Collinsville Chapter to comply with the requirements of the aforesaid resolution.”

The Grand High Priest thus states his position :

“ While our law is plain that no Chapter can act on a petition for degrees without the consent of the Chapter having

jurisdiction, I know of no law which prevents a brother from applying to any Chapter that he may choose, even though he may live in the jurisdiction of another. This being the case, Companion Miller has been guilty of no offense, and yet he has been transferred, by order of this Grand Chapter, and without his consent, from the Chapter of his choice to one not his choice, and Whitesboro Chapter has been compelled to receive him as a member, without the privilege of saying whether or not it was willing to receive him. In my opinion this resolution not only does great injustice to both Companion Miller and Whitesboro Chapter, but is in violation of Article 2, Section 10, of the Constitution. I recommend that such part of said resolution as relates to the membership of Companion Miller, be rescinded, and that he retain his membership with Collinsville Chapter."

To which the Committee added :

"We have considered decision No. 15 and concur therein. As the Grand Chapter is prohibited by Section 10, Article 2, from restoring an appellant to membership within the Body from which he was expelled, without its consent, we hold that under the same provision it cannot create a Companion a member of a Subordinate Chapter under any other circumstances, without said Chapter's consent. We offer the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That so much of the resolution on page 46, of printed Proceedings of 1893, as finds Companion J. D. Miller a member of Whitesboro Chapter, No. 112, be, and the same is hereby repealed "

They have a Grand Orator in Texas who orates to some purpose. Comp. A. J. Hendrick's address on Masonry was in most respects a carefully prepared paper, while in one or two the Masonic historians would be apt to try a fall with him, as for instance :

"Neither is it our purpose, upon this occasion, to argue the antiquity of the Order, for no man knows the exact date of the origin of Symbolic Masonry. Yet, no intelligent person will deny that it has existed since the building of King Solomon's Temple, in a similar form to what it is to-day. And we, Royal Arch Masons, frankly confess that Capitular and Cryptic Masonry are of more recent discovery ; but, a thorough knowledge of all *three sections* of the Ancient York Rite are essentially necessary to clearly appreciate or understand the Master's degree, and fully comprehend this, the most beautiful and sublime system of morality, that the world ever beheld."

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals had nothing to do, and in announcing the fact said :

"When we consider the vast extent of the great State of Texas, and jurisdiction of this Most Excellent Grand Chapter, the fact that there are two hundred and four working Chapters, with an actual membership of five thousand six hundred and eighty, we cannot refrain from congratulating this Most Excel-

lent Grand Chapter on the fact that such perfect peace and quietude reigns throughout your jurisdiction."

The above is scarcely consistent with the Grand Secretary's returns which show but 134 working and 69 "demised" Chapters, the date of last returns of some of the latter going away back into the fifties. The utility of maintaining a record of Chapters which have not been heard from for forty years is beyond comprehension. To include them with the working Chapters is not worthy of "this Most Excellent Grand Chapter."

A resolution of Grand Chapter in 1893 thus provides for "demised Chapters":

"*Resolved*, That any Chapter working under a charter from this Grand Chapter, shall forfeit the same by failure to meet or otherwise, and shall remain demised for a longer time than twelve months, when they shall be authorized to resume work by authority of this Grand Chapter. the Grand High Priest or Deputy Grand High Priest shall, either in person or by proxy, set said Chapter to work after satisfaction is given that the Chapter can confer the several degrees properly, and said action be reported to this Grand Chapter, the same as setting a new Chapter to work under a charter. And that the time of their first meeting shall be their regular time of meeting provided for in their by-laws previous to their demise."

This is decidedly a case of living in hope of a joyful resurrection. Fancy some of those that "demised" in '56 or following years, suddenly shaking off the musty shroud, and proclaiming their readiness to resume business at the old stand. After all "demised" is not the word, "paralyzed" would be better. The dead do not return, at least in time to do any good to the treasury.

Comp. Terrell disclaims any intention of constructing a review of the Correspondence for the delectation of other reporters, and they are welcome to shy rocks if it pleases them. His labors are for the Companions of Texas, and as we are much in a similar position, we cordially admire the sentiment. Nevertheless, the report is one of the best in the series and the captious brethren of the guild will have a nut to crack when they start out to "cruelly criticize."

In view of the adverse comments on Canada's action in planting warrants in Australia, his remarks regarding the assumption of authority over the earth by the General Grand Chapter, touch a sympathetic

chord. That superlative body having organized Chapters in Shanghai, Honolulu and Republic of Mexico, he says : " Verily, her wings are outspread." Further :

"It appears that the General Grand Chapter chartered a Chapter in Valparaiso, Chili, in 1865, known as ' King Cyrus Chapter.' That in 1880, no reports or dues having been received from said Chapter, its charter was declared forfeited.

"The Chapter, however, continued to hold its meetings and to make Royal Arch Masons until December, 1893."

A letter from Valparaiso to the General Grand High Priest informs him that the Companions there were not notified of the revocation of the charter, and have never received any other communication, good, bad or indifferent, but they continued to work just the same, and observes:

"Many of these are scattered over Europe and the United States. They received their degrees in a Masonic manner, they hold diplomas from King Cyrus Chapter, and they are entitled to look to us for the fulfillment of our obligations to them. If they are not R. A. Masons in good and regular standing, the fault is neither theirs nor ours."

To which Comp. Terrell sententiously adds :

"Mars is now near the earth, and we might suggest that the General Grand Chapter might organize a Chapter on that planet."

We are right with him on the subject of mixed funerals when he says under Arkansas :

"The Blue Lodge may be assisted by any other *Masonic* body, but we do protest against uniting with other institutions in the burial service. Let it be one or the other, but let's not have any mixing."

Under Canada he comments on the action of Grand Chapter in conferring rank on several Companions in order to rouse a dormant Chapter, and says :

"We confess that to us this seems to be a new way of re-suscitating a dormant Chapter."

Is not that much better than permitting it to "demise" and then stand by and wait for it to resurrect itself? The infusion of a little life-giving elixir after the style adopted by Canada is frequently productive of vigor and longevity.

The Grand Z's mention of a General Grand Chapter for British North America does not meet with his approbation.

"We suppose our Canadian Companions will manage their

affairs to suit themselves, but we suggest to them that they had better let the organization of the General Grand Chapter alone. They don't need it."

He quotes in full the report of the Australian Grand Superintendent, and says :

"The Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria has been recognized by but few American Grand Chapters, notwithstanding she has been before the Capitular world, we believe, since 1889. The trouble seems to be that she has failed to convince the different Grand Chapters that she is a legally organized Body. We confess there is not enough before us to enable us to pass any judgment upon this question. Hence, we give no opinion, but place the above information before the Royal Craft of Texas."

Reviewing Comp. Drummond, of Maine, he says :

"If by the term '*Masonic Proselyting*' our good Companion means the inducing profanes to apply for membership in a Masonic Lodge, then we heartily concur, as we presume all good Masons would. Such a course would render nugatory the '*free will and accord*' running through our ritual at almost every step. But as to soliciting Master Masons to join the Chapter, we see no impropriety in it."

From this admirable report one could gather enough good things to fill a volume, but the powers that be are opposed to the committee creating the nucleus of a library at one sitting.

J. K. Stone, Belleville, Grand High Priest ; George Lopas, jr., Houston, Grand Secretary.

Vermont.

Chapters 26 ; Members 2,581.

Burlington saw the Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter on the 15th June, 1894. That everything betokened peace was indicated by Grand High Priest Myron J. Horton in his address, who said :

"The fair field of the past has been so fragrant with the blossoms of love and the flowers of obedience, that I should scarce find it necessary to address you at this time were it not a constitutional requirement."

How nice he pays a tribute of five pages to the memory of departed Companions, opening with William Cullen Bryant's beautiful lines, which however he, unintentionally of course, appropriates to himself.

For "want of opportunities" he did not make as

many visits as he intended, although there were some Chapters that were sick and needed a physician.

It is remarkable the number of chief officers who start out with the most praiseworthy intentions (material for a choice line of tesseiated fire proof resolution pavement), but who are unfortunately assailed with business cares in that particular year.

The District Deputy Grand High Priests, similar to our Grand Superintendent, proved zealous, and "the success of the past year is largely due to their painstaking labors."

Comp. Marsh G. Perkins furnishes a report on Correspondence replete with "elegant extracts," wise saws and good advice, much of which we would gladly reproduce if our limit permitted.

He favorably notices Canada for '93 and marks the absence of Vermont's representative. Of the Australian matter he says :

"Notwithstanding the organization of a Grand Chapter in Victoria, Australia, Canada continues to issue warrants for new Chapters in that Antipodean district."

"With information at hand we do not attempt to pass judgment upon the *status* of the Australian Grand Chapter, but firmly believe that no Grand Chapter should deliberately add to the difficulties of a harmonious and fraternal solution of the question sure to present itself to the whole Capitular world in the near future. Already we read that the Grand Chapter of Victoria refuses to recognize or receive the members of Chapters on the Canadian register, and the latter are appealing to the source of their authority for existence 'to uphold them in maintaining their rights.' Why, then, as already suggested, further complicate matters?"

That he is not a stickler for physical perfection is gathered from the following under Maryland :

"We know 'tis law, but live in hopes to see it greatly modified, so that a worthy, brainy brother need not be ruthlessly cast out among the rubbish, merely because of physical misfortune. Who knows what priceless keystone may be thus rejected?"

He objects to the word "foreign" in conjunction with correspondence, and says it

"Ought not to be used by the advance guard of the Capitular guild. It is bad enough to group our Canadian cousins and

companions in a 'foreign' class, but to number one's own sisters as among the foreigners is insufferable."

Of the Past Master's degree question he has something to advance and furnishes a pretty accurate idea of the situation. Under Wisconsin he says:

"Companion Swain holds to the view that there is no objection to a *virtual* Past Master sitting in a convocation of actual Past Masters, provided all of the latter present are Mark Masters. This is a 'mixin' that Vermont, we are glad to say, disapproves of entirely. She knows no 'Past Master's degree,' as such, in symbolic Masonry, and permits no one to participate in the esoteric portions of the installation ceremonies of a W.M. except those who have *actually* passed the chair in a duly warranted and legally constituted Lodge. This is the correct disposition, as we believe, of the oriental rag-baby, if it must be nourished and cherished, but, personally, we must confess that very few tears would be shed if some iconoclastic dog got hold of it, and shook its life-possessioning saw-dust into space."

Right you are, Companion, and if the information will afford you any solace, then learn that Canada borrowed that dog and the shaking operation was a brilliant success.

Myron J. Horton, Poultney, Grand High Priest;
Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

Virginia.

Chapters 38; Members 2,350.

The Eighty-Seventh Annual Convocation was held in Richmond on the 13th November, 1894. M. E. Comp. John Thomas Carter, Grand High Priest, delivered an address that was characterized by terseness and strict observance to business. To the death of Past Grand High Priest Francis H. Hill he thus refers:

"A Mason of high moral character, sterling worth, and endowed with superior skill in Royal Arch Masonry, passed to his reward on the 28th of January last. We mourn his death as a great loss to our institution."

He attended a school of instruction at Eggleston Springs, but otherwise was not seen much of by the Companions. He succinctly furnishes his explanation in two lines.

"I regret that I have not been able to visit any of the Chapters. My business engagements have taken all my time."

One of his decisions reads:

“ That a Chapter could not confer the Capitular Degrees upon a Master Mason under twenty-one years of age who had received the Master’s Degree in England.”

The committee supported the Grand High Priest in his ruling, but failed to state why. A little light on this decision would have cleared away a good deal of speculation. Was the candidate rejected because he was under twenty-one? We thought the qualification for the Chapter the world over was, that the applicant should be an affiliated Master Mason—and possessing that degree a certain time. The age question is a factor new to us, but may of course be a consideration in Virginia. The decision is open to the other interpretation that the objection lay in the applicant having received the Master’s degree in England. Either way there is material for a very promising and large sized controversy.

He recommended the recognition of New Brunswick and the recommendation was adopted.

An appropriation of \$125 for an assistant to the Grand Secretary was concurred in, the latter officer being ill.

The following interrogation and resolution were submitted and adopted:

“ If a Master Mason should be suspended or expelled, and after an appeal to the Grand Lodge be reinstated to the rights and benefits of Masonry, does it reinstate him to membership in the Chapter?

“ *Resolved*, That the answer be in the negative.”

The reports of the Deputy Grand Lecturers for the ten districts showed that their officers generally attended to the duty of visiting.

There was no report on correspondence.

Geo. W. Poe, Richmond, Grand High Priest; Wm. B. Isaacs, Grand Secretary.

West Virginia.

Chapters 19; Members 1,115.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Wheeling, Nov. 12th, 1894: M. E. Comp. John W. Morris, Grand High Priest, delivered an address which was barren of interest outside his own jurisdiction, if we

except the neighboring State. He congratulated Grand Chapter that no question of serious import had been presented for decision, and that harmony was everywhere apparent.

The Grand Secretary submitted the MS. of a Text Book which he had prepared, and suggested a fitting celebration of the silver anniversary of the Grand Chapter. The grateful Companions granted him an additional allowance of fifty dollars.

The committee appointed to examine the Text Book MS. reported favorably, and further recommended that a portrait of its author should adorn the title page. A modest demurer on behalf of Comp. Long was smilingly rejected by the Chapter.

Comp. Rev. Hugh W. Torrence prepared the report on Correspondence in which he reviewed with care the proceedings embraced in forty-eight volumes.

He takes occasion, in discussing Arkansas, to criticize a statement of the late Comp. Connor, whom the reporter of that Grand Chapter had freely quoted. The extract and comment are given herewith :

“ The foundation of that remarkable nation that occupied the country along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, which they conquered from the Canaanites, was laid when the angel called to Moses out of the Burning Bush, while he was keeping the flocks of the Midian priest, his father-in-law. From that day the Hebrews became ‘the chosen people!’ When they escaped from their slavery they established themselves in the fertile plains of Canaan.

“ We have supposed that the foundation of that nation or people was laid when God called Abram, and that in Jacob’s and Joseph’s time and during their long residence in Egypt they were ‘the chosen people,’ or several hundred years before the call came to Moses.

“ The first chosen were the children of Eber. Out of the Hebrews were selected the Israelites, and out of the Israelites the Jews. We fail to see any good reason for the statement that ‘when the angel called to Moses out of the burning bush, while he was keeping the flocks of the Midian priest, his father-in-law.’ From that day the Hebrews became ‘the chosen people.’ ”

He deals with Canada tenderly and like many others quotes that part of M. E. Comp. Harding’s address that referred to the organization of Grand Chapter and the fact that the veteran Companion Kivas Tully is the

only survivor of the participators in that interesting event. He notes our prosperity and says :

“The Grand Chapter covers an immense territory, running across the continent and around to Australia, invading the fields of other Grand Chapters. The history of this is given at length by Companion S. Stacker Williams, of Ohio.”

Wise reporter to dispose of a risky statement so handily. Of the Grand Z's labours he says :

“He visited many Chapters and was abundant in labors, and encourages zeal and fidelity on the part of the other officers both by word and example.”

He very naturally touches upon the query “whether a Mason was a humanitarian or not,” put to the Grand High Priest of Kansas, and after giving his own view of the question sensibly adds :

“However, as there seems to be no special call for it at present, we doubt the wisdom of Grand High Priests or others discussing such topics or at least of putting the questions into print.”

Louisiana's curt treatment of West Virginia he resents in this wise :

“Companion Duncan, you may not know it, but West Virginia is a great State. We have the brightest Masons in the world, and more coal than any State in the Union, much of which we send down to Louisiana to drive away your fogs and boil the juice that makes your sugar. Surely a knowledge of these, and other equally important facts, will lead you in your next report to treat us with more consideration.”

To the learned Drummond's advice “to strike out farther next time,” he discreetly replies :

“We respectfully decline to venture very far into the raging billows of legal controversy because we have a dislike for that kind of swimming and we have not fully explored the bottom.”

His conservatism is loose when he deals with the physical perfection controversy :

“Let us be more particular about moral infirmities and less particular about those which are merely physical. We know of no reason why a man with two artificial limbs might not become the brightest star in the Masonic constellation, and if that were the only objection, we would make any usages and customs, however ancient, that were in the way, stand aside for that occasion.”

Neil Robinson, Charleston, Grand High Priest ;
Odell S. Long, Charleston, Grand Secretary.

Wisconsin.

Chapters 66; Members 5,460.

The Forty-fifth Annual Convocation was held in Milwaukee, February 19, 1895. Grand High Priest T. S. Hayhurst's address was remarkable for two things. He did not allude to the season of financial depression, and he did announce the largest gain in membership ever made in one year in his jurisdiction. While everything was peaceful and happy he yet found something to interest the Companions.

The Companions at Shell Lake who had applied for a dispensation to organize a Chapter found that they had "bitten off more than they could chew," and with equal alacrity, asked for its recall. Another was at work about a month when the forest fires of July last laid waste the tabernacle and suspended their labors. They, however, are not discouraged. A third continued up to date without calamity and the Grand High Priest held out hopes of a charter.

The following is found among his decisions :

"A Master Mason who has sat in our Blue Lodge, presented himself at the outer courts of our Tabernacle and requested an examining committee, claiming to be a Royal Arch Mason, exalted in a regularly constituted Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Calcutta, India. In the course of a personal conversation with him, I learned he had been exalted a Royal Arch Mason and afterward advanced to the degree of Mark Master, but that he knew nothing of either the Past Master or Most Excellent Master's degree.

"*1st Question.* What can we do with him? Answer. Companions without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may present themselves as Royal Arch Masons, producing satisfactory evidence of having received that degree may be given the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, to the end that they may be healed.

"*2nd Question.* Can we allow him to visit our Chapter? Answer. No. A foreign Companion not in possession of all the degrees as practiced in the United States is not allowed to visit a Chapter."

And yet, that Companion was as much a Royal Arch Mason as any in Wisconsin. An American Companion sojourning in England or India, and desiring to visit a Chapter would be sadly taken aback if he were left to cool his heels in the "outer court," because he

happened to possess the additional degrees of Past and Most Excellent. It is a poor rule that won't work both ways.

As well might it be argued that England and Ireland should not be accorded recognition by the General Grand Chapter or any of its constituents, because, forsooth, they neglected to adopt the two degrees devised by Thomas Smith Webb, and by him grafted upon the American system. They are modernisms pure and simple, even if they are "pretty." The traditional connection between the Symbolic degrees and the Royal Arch was not, as far as history teaches us, in doubt before the advent of Webb on the scene. Both possessed some claims to antiquity even

"When Richmond was a little peevish boy."

To the lamentable circumstance that England was not apprized of the gifted ritual maker's discoveries, or if apprized, failed to appreciate the results of his lucubrations, is to be attributed the barring of the Chapter portals upon an English Royal Arch Mason in this enlightened era.

Just picture the Earl of Euston, or some other exalted dignitary of England's Grand Chapter, visiting this continent and knocking vainly at the Chapter door. Or say it is Historian Hughan, whose fame every reading Mason at this side of the Atlantic professes to admire, who applies for admittance to an American Chapter, would he have to go through the purifying process, or would he be treated as was the humble Companion from Calcutta who sought for bread and was given a stone? Not a bit of it. Our good Companions even in General Grand Chapter would be falling over each other to do him honor, and not one but would find it convenient to forget that a suggestion of "healing" was necessary. "It all depends, you know."

Wisconsin's Grand High Priest, it is true, only complied, as in duty bound, with a regulation of General Grand Chapter, but surely it is anomalous, to say the least, that the maker should be recognized and his work repudiated.

The allurements of lofty degrees are as enticing in Winconsin as elsewhere, as witness:

"An evil of growing magnitude calls for some attention from this Grand Chapter. About twenty years ago a regulation was adopted, providing that a Brother must be a Master Mason of six months standing, before being eligible to the Chapter degrees. This was repealed because so inflexible a law was found to be injudicious, and I do not favor its re-enactment. But it was not intended by such repeal to favor railroading candidates into the Chapter before the ink was fairly dry on the signatures to the by-laws of the Lodge, and above all it was not supposed possible that the practice of 'hustling for candidates' would come in vogue. As a rule the Master Mason should be fairly made a Master Mason before signing a petition for the Chapter degrees."

The Grand High Priest advocated the preparation of shorter lectures for each degree. Something that the candidate can easily learn, as the busy men in the profession and otherwise, who are most desirable, hesitate to join the Chapters because they cannot afford to give the time to the memorizing at present demanded.

That even Wisconsin finds some "healing" necessary is gathered from the Grand Lecturer's report.

"There has been, in some instances, a disposition to interpolate into the work matters foreign to and not recognized by the ritual adopted in this jurisdiction. To the proper presentation of its various incidents, by means of views, there can be no objection. They are both interesting and instructive; but the interpolation of historical events and geographical subjects not referred to in the work however interesting they may be as a subject for a Masonic address, serves to detract the attention of the candidates from the teachings and principles intended to be conveyed, lengthens the degree and makes it wearisome, and affords a precedent for others to draw upon their imagination for other and similar additions, whether appropriate or not. It also has a tendency to create a spirit of dissatisfaction on the part of members of Chapters whose officers are striving to conform strictly to the work, and make no attempts at innovations and fanciful additions."

After all "they that are whole need not a physician but they that are sick."

It was decided to procure a jewel for Past Grand High Priest W. C. Swain. One who has done so much to entertain and instruct the Companions of his own and other jurisdictions deserves so much at least. Long may he live to wear it.

A well-executed portrait of the late Albert Von Haller Carpenter, Past Grand High Priest, who died March 9th, 1895, is incorporated with the obituaries.

"A Mason devoted to the welfare of the Fraternity ; beloved and honored by his Brethren of Wisconsin, with whom he had been intimately associated for nearly forty years."

Comp. Wm. C. Swain presents a welcome report on Correspondence, the reading of which we thoroughly enjoyed and benefitted therefrom.

On the subject of non-affiliation, he has this to say under California :

"We question non-affiliation being a violation of Masonic law, Mackey to the contrary notwithstanding. Every brother has a right to withdraw from his Lodge at pleasure. Of course, if he does so he can claim nothing from it, but, on the other hand, we have no right to affix a stigma on him for it. He has committed no crime, and is guilty of no Masonic offence. He has simply withdrawn, and by so doing announces to us that he asks nothing from us as a Lodge. He has taken certain obligations which are still binding upon him, and we have taken obligations with reference to him, which are still binding upon us, but he has taken no obligation which binds him to remain a member of a Lodge."

Canada for 1894 receives friendly notice. He comments in the customary strain on the Australian difficulty.

Under Louisiana he has this to say of the reporter's views on a favorite topic of controversy.

"He is liberal on the question of physical qualifications, and would admit a brother with an artistic substitute for a limb, but not one with a peg instead of a foot, because he could not comply with the ritual. But, on this theory, as soon as a Companion has broken his cork leg, he should cease to be a Royal Arch Mason until he had obtained a new one."

And quotes the late Comp. Connor's humorous fancies on the same question :

"We commend the following *reductio ad absurdum* :

"We imagine a Texas High Priest examining a Master Mason, as to his possible 'deformities.'; He begins :

'Stretch forth both hands and stand firm.' *Done.*

"Fingers are counted, and nails and joints carefully examined.

'Right, complete, perfect ; hands down.' *Done.*

'Remove your hose, and stretch forth both crubeens.' *Done.*

"Toes counted, nails examined, shape of foot generally criticised.

'Correct, though slightly fragrant. Restore hose.' *Done.*

"Then the High Priest breathes a word of encouragement, and perhaps 'smiles,' after which :

'My Brother, that there be no deception practiced upon the 'Royal Craft' by even a semblance of 'deformity,' strip to your buff. *Done*, but with great reluctance.

"Now a plumb line is dropped to test the exactitude of the spinal column; the abdomen is subjected to geometrical measurements and then sounded for ruptures and things; the legs are set together and examinations made as to width and curvatures of the daylight apertures. The results are most gratifying, except as to ruptures; one is discovered, and Texas, like Kentucky, tolerates no belly that is imperfectly enwalled. Alas! alas! Even the perfection of his fingers and toes, of his moral character and nobility of life cannot save him now. His belly is 'busted' and he must walk the Capitular plank."

He doesn't stray many miles away from the truth when he ventures to remark:

"One of the great faults of our Grand Bodies is legislating upon subjects which are unnecessary and which may be safely left to the discretion of Lodges and Chapters. Physical qualifications is one of these matters and temperance legislation is another on which we would like to preach a sermon if this was the proper place."

Under Oregon he says of that bone of contention, the Past Master:

"We have no objection to seeing the degree abolished in the Chapter. We agree that one who has received it in the Chapter is a Past Master and does not need to take it again to qualify him to preside over his Lodge. We agree that an actual Past Master may not need to take the degree over again in the Chapter. But Lodge and Chapter are two distinct bodies. And one of the regulations of the Chapter is, that its degrees must be taken in their order, and that it cannot confer the Past Master's degree upon a Brother, until he has received the Mark degree. We do not believe one who is a virtual Past Master only has a right to sit in a Lodge of actual Past Masters."

What a muddle it all is, and a muddle it will continue until the chair degree in the blue is given its rightful title, or better still, when from the Chapter is forever banished that "old man of the sea," known as the Past Master's Degree.

In view of the "roasting" to come, and which we caedidly admit is righteously deserved, we take the libnrty to reproduce the following anecdote with which Comp. Swain winds up the conclusion to his charming report:

"During the late unpleasantness, Capt. Bailey commanded a company raised up in the woods, where they, as well as himself, were accustomed to the largest liberty. The Captain was

rough and illiterate, but he knew what he wanted. One day, he with his company, was sent out to reconnaissance. The General accompanied them part of the way and pointed the direction. Soon they came to a large, nice domain which had escaped the foragers of both sides. True to his instincts, he began to investigate, and soon discovered a ten gallon cask of fine old peach brandy. The Captain was fair and divided it up, of course appropriating the lion's share to himself, and soon the whole company were gloriously full. He concluded he must go back in style to make his report, and he had horses hitched to a barouche, got in and sitting erect with a drunken gravity, the procession started homeward. One of the men had a well grown pig under his arm which was making a vigorous protest against the whole proceedings. 'Sargint! give him to me!' The pig was placed between his legs, with a hand on each ear. Pretty soon they met the General who in indignant amazement exclaimed: 'Captain, what is the meaning of all this?' 'It means, General, we made — made the — the reconnaissance, and — and —.' A vigorous remonstrance from the pig. The Captain let go one hand, and hitting him a whack on the side of the head, said, '—— —, who's a makin' this report, you or me?'

Samuel Wright, Wilwaukee, Grand High Priest ;
John A. Laflin, Wilwaukee, Grand Secretary.

General Grand Chapter.

The Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, held in the city of Topeka, Kan., Wednesday, August 22, 1894, brought together the bright particular stars of Capitular Masonry from all but half a dozen States of the Union.

Comp. Geo. L. McCahn, of Maryland, Deputy General Grand High Priest, presided, and feelingly referred to the death of Comp. J. P. Horner, of Louisiana, General Grand High Priest, which occurred on the 24th January, 1893.

No inconsiderable portion of his address is taken up with relating the efforts put forth to induce the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Texas, Rhode Island, Virginia, and West Virginia to come in under the shelter of the fold. According to the Secretary's published list they were successful with three, and Pennsylvania and Virginia are the only two under the heading of "non-participants," while Rhode Island, Texas and West Virginia are included among those "under the jurisdiction" of the General Grand Chapter. It looks very much as if two of

the latter, at any rate, were chickens that have been prematurely counted.

Among the decisions are found :

5. "That dependent Lodges should not be opened until the Chapter is first opened and dispensed with ; after the work of the dependent Lodges is accomplished they are closed, and the Chapter resumes labor and is closed."

7. That a petition for degrees must be disposed of by ballot."

10. "That verbal notice of special meeting and business to be transacted, given at a Convocation of a Chapter, is a legal and sufficient notice to those Companions who were present."

11. "That when a summons has been issued by vote of the Chapter, and it is in the power of the Companion to respond, and he fails to do so, it is proper for the Chapter to order charges preferred and the Companion brought to trial for the offence."

12. "That the acceptance of a candidate who has an artificial leg, but who can conform to the requirements of the work, is permissible."

The Committee on Jurisprudence, with some modifications, reported favorably.

"Dependant Lodges should not be opened, at stated Convocations, until the Chapter is first opened and dispensed with ; after the work of the dependent Lodges is accomplished they should be closed, and the Chapter resume labor and be closed in form."

"Your Committee are of the opinion that the *eleventh* decision might operate, in some cases, with harshness ; and they therefore recommend that before the Companion who has failed to obey a summons should be put to the necessity of answering charges, he should first be notified to appear and show cause why charges should not be preferred. The decision will then read :

"When a summons has been issued by vote of the Chapter and the Companion has failed to appear in obedience thereto, it is proper for the Chapter to order that notice be given to the Companion to appear in the Chapter at some time, which should be stated, and show cause why charges should not be preferred against him for disobeying the summons.

"From the conclusion of your Committee approving of the *twelfth* decision reported in the address (that relating to the physical qualification of Candidates), Comp. Long of the Committee, interposes his dissent."

And the Indiana representative did dissent most vigorously and to some effect. Concluding, he said :

"The decisions of the General Grand Chapter on this point have been various, at different periods, and some of these have contemplated 'literal compliance' with the ceremonies on the part of the candidate, which certainly can not be exercised by

one whose arms and legs are absent, and their places supplied by mechanical appliances.

"The undersigned believes that this would be a dangerously radical change in the requirements that have so long prevailed, and must, therefore, with all proper deference to the opinions of his associates of the Committee, recommend a non-concurrence in the decision referred to."

Then Comp. Edward T. Shultz, of Maryland, offered the following, which was referred to the Standing Committee on Jurisprudence:

"That it is the sense of this General Grand Chapter that the Capitular degrees should not be conferred upon any one who cannot comply literally with all the requirements of said degrees, and without the aid of mechanical appliances."

Three members of the Committee approved of the resolution and three were of the fixed opinion that questions of physical disqualification of candidates are better left to the Lodges of Symbolic Masonry, and that so far as they affect the advancement of candidates for Capitular Masonry, individual Chapters may be safely trusted.

Finally, on motion of Comp. Henry S. Webster, of Maine, it was

"*Resolved*, That consideration of the reports of the Committee on Jurisprudence relative to the physical qualifications of candidates be deferred until the next Triennial Convocation.

And thus a respite from wooden legs was secured for three years, at any rate.

The Acting General Grand High Priest in his address included the following:

"A Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria was organized March 22nd, 1889. No formal application for recognition has been received, but, were it otherwise, the report, adopted by the Grand Chapter of Canada, July 21, 1893 should preclude consideration of the subject at this Convocation.

On which the Correspondence Committee reported:

"With reference to that portion of the General Grand High Priest's address concerning the recognition of the Grand Chapter of New South Wales and Victoria, referred to us, we beg to have the same referred to the incoming General Grand High Priest for examination and investigation, particularly with reference to the differences now existing between said Grand Chapters and the Grand Chapter of Canada and that of Victoria."

He called attention to the fact that General Grand

Chapter would attain its hundredth anniversary in 1897, the year of the next triennial.

Five warrants of dispensation were issued and two Chapters in Idaho and New Mexico were constituted. Of the new ones, two were applications from Wyoming, one Idaho, one new Mexico, and one Republic of Mexico.

There are also Chapters under this governing body in Utah, Chili, Hawaiian Islands and China.

It was decided to hold the next Triennial Convocation at Baltimore, the home of General Grand High Priest McCahan

Geo. L. McCahn, Baltimore, General Grand High Priest; Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, General Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1894	Mississippi	1894
Arizona	1894	Montana	1894
Arkansas	1894	Nebraska	1894
California	1894	New Brunswick	1894
Colorado	1895	New Hampshire	1894
Connecticut	1894	New Jersey	1894
Deleware	1895	New York	1895
District of Columbia	1894	North Dakota	1894
Florida	1894-'95	Ohio	1894
Georgia	1894	Pennsylvania	1894
Illinois	1894	Quebec	1895
Indiana	1894	Rhode Island	1894
Indian Territory	1894	South Carolina	1895
Iowa	1894	South Dakota	1894
Kansas	1894-'95	Tennessee	1895
Kentucky	1894	Texas	1894
Louisiana	1895	Vermont	1894
Maine	1894	Virginia	1894
Maryland	1694	West Virginia	1894
Massachusetts	1894	Wisconsin	1895
Michigan	1895	General Grand Chapter	1894
Minnesota	1894		

GEO. J. BENNETT,
Chairman.

SPCL HS 719 C2 A3 1893-95

